

**Inside:**

Special publication tells about severe storms and what precautions to take

Fort Riley Post

She loves strawberries

Custer Hill school carnival gives kids chance for fun, earns money for playground

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Friday, April 22, 2005

America's Warfighting Center

Vol. 48, No. 16

Soldiers die in accident on range

Staff report

Two Fort Riley Soldiers were killed April 19 during a training exercise on post.

The Soldiers were with Company A, 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division.

Five other 1st Engineer Soldiers were involved in the incident. Their injuries are non-life threatening.

The Soldiers were conducting training operations on Range 52. The M113 Armored Personnel Carrier they were in rolled over while the Soldiers were negotiating the Squad Assault Course.

The names of the deceased Soldiers are being withheld pending next of kin notification.

The incident is under investigation.

Around The Army

Iraq:

The European Stars and Stripes reported April 20 that an Iraqi woman is determined to join her country's police force. Ammara Rathay said she is not intimidated by a culture not 100 percent ready to accept women on the Iraqi police force.

"I want to help keep my country and the people on the streets safe," said the 35-year-old police cadet candidate who never before has held a job. "It will be difficult, yes, but I am ready."

Iraq, however, might not be. It is a delicate issue being addressed by the U.S.-led coalition and Iraqi leadership as the country transforms into a democracy.

For more on this story and other U.S. military news in the European and Pacific theaters, visit www.eastripes.com on the Web.

Fort Knox:

The Turret reported April 14 that incidences of post personnel being cited for driving under the influence had spiked sharply since last year.

Master Sgt. Larry Stacy, the MP operations officer, said that at least 76 personnel had been pulled over on and off post for DUI between October and March, compared with 44 during the same period last year. Of the 42 DUI citations issued since Jan. 1, a total of 31 were issued to Soldiers.

The increase has coincided with a stepped-up law enforcement training program for all new military police arriving at Knox.

For more on this story and other Fort Knox news, visit www.thewesternenterprise.com/turret/ on the Web.

Hawaii:

The Hawaii Army Weekly reported March 18 that Soldiers of the 25th Infantry Division returned to the islands after a year in Afghanistan.

For more on this story and other Hawaii news, visit www.25id.army.mil/haw.asp on the Web.



Army OKs medals rules

By Eric Cramer
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Soldiers can begin wearing the new Iraq and Afghanistan campaign medals. The Department of the Army approved

the final implementation rules for them April 8. The medals replace the former Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal.

Soldiers are eligible for the Afghanistan Campaign Medal if

they served in direct support of Operation Enduring Freedom on or after Oct. 24, 2001, until a future date to be determined by the Secretary of Defense or the cessation of the operation.

The area of eligibility includes

all the land area of Afghanistan and all the air space above the land.

Soldiers are eligible to receive the Iraq Campaign Medal if they served in direct support of Opera-

See Medals, Page 3



Gun experts



Post/Blackmon

Spec. Dominic Del Mar of Troop D, 4th Cav., tests on the M-2 .50-caliber machine gun prior to gunnery training. Soldiers of Troop D tested their gunner skills April 14.

Scouts, others demonstrate skills

By April Blackmon
Staff writer

The Scouts and fire support specialists of Troop D, 4th Cavalry, prepared for light cavalry gunnery training with tests on their gunner skills April 14.

Known as gunnery skills test, or GST, stations are set up to test Soldiers' knowledge and proficiency of the weapons they shoot in their "Humvee" gunnery training.

"To shoot gunnery, you have to do GST within six months of shooting. But every time we shoot gunnery, we test everybody," said Capt. Kevin Toner, Troop D commander.

Each Soldier must go through the stations, whether

they will be shooting the guns in training or not, Toner said.

"Based on whatever happens in combat, anybody might get thrown up into the gun. So everyone has to be proficient," he said.

The Soldiers tested at two weapons stations - one for the M-2 .50-caliber machine gun and another for the M-19 automatic grenade launcher. Their job was to assemble, disassemble, clear the weapon and conduct a functions check on the weapon, Toner said.

"It's all very logical and sequential steps with a time standard attached to it," he said.

Soldiers will go through the testing stations until they meet

See Gun skills, Page 2



Post/Blackmon

Pfc. Cord Vaughn works on the M-19 automatic grenade launcher while Staff Sgt. Michael Bender grades him on time and accuracy.

National Guard fills MP needs

Montana unit to handle law enforcement

By Mike Heronemus
Editor

New military policemen began patrols on their own at Fort Riley Monday.

Eighty-seven members of Company A (Military Police Provisional), 1st Battalion, 190th Field Artillery, Montana National Guard completed military police training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., in February and MP Academy training at Fort Riley and "night and left seat rides" with active duty MPs already stationed at Fort Riley the first two weeks in March.

"They're ready to take the road," the post's provost marshal, Lt. Col. Anthony Zabek, said April 14. "They've finished a comprehensive check ride and been signed off by their trainers and me," he said.

This isn't the first change in military missions for the Billings, Mont., National Guard unit. Before 1995, it was a light infantry unit with wire-guided anti-tank weapons. The Company A commander, Capt. Thor Loyer, has changed branch insignia three times while serving with the unit, from military intelligence to field artillery and now to military police.

The National Guard MPs take over law enforcement activities at Fort Riley, Zabek said. Active duty MPs at Fort Riley who are specially trained for specific missions, such as the K-9 force and criminal investigations, will continue in those missions, he said.

The added MP force will allow the provost marshal to put bike

See New MPs, Page 2

Guard, Reserves to get temporary buildings

New active duty brigade will move into permanent Custer Hill 'homes'

By Austin Meek
Staff writer

Temporary facilities will be provided in the Camp Funston area to accommodate Reserve Component Support Division Soldiers, said Director of Public Works Larry McGee. The temporary structures will be used as barracks, dining facilities, adminis-

trative offices, classrooms and maintenance facilities for RCSD.

Moving RCSD to Camp Funston will make permanent facilities on Custer Hill available for newly arriving Soldiers of the 6th Brigade, 25th Infantry Division.

It was rumored that the 6th Bde. would occupy Camp Funston, but McGee said moving RCSD to Funston was the most logical option.

"After taking into consideration many factors, it was recommended to use Funston for RCSD," McGee said.

"Camp Funston is where reserve component units prepare for annual training. It also is where RC units draw equipment and prepare it for rail if mobilized," he said.

Buildings classified as "temporary" lose less than 20 percent of

their value when relocated, McGee said. Those structures include trailers, panel buildings and tension fabric tents.

"(Temporary buildings) can be trailers such as those seen in trailer parks, or modular structures like those often seen at schools when temporary classrooms are added," McGee said.

Contractors will determine the exact type of buildings to be used

in Camp Funston, McGee said. He expects panel buildings to be used for maintenance facilities and trailers or modular units to be used for barracks.

Total cost for this project, including a multi-purpose maintenance facility and fire station, is about \$70 million, McGee said.

McGee said funding is expected in June and facilities should be ready for use by December 2005.





Post news in brief

Travel cell hours change

To better serve its customers, the 24th Infantry Division (Mech) G8 travel staff will be available from 7:30 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday beginning April 25.

The travel staff is located in Room 124, Building 512. Customers should use the south end of the building to enter. For more information, call Suzi Floberg at 239-2858.

General visits Guard Soldiers

Maj. Gen. Roger Lempke, adjutant general of the Nebraska National Guard, visited Nebraska Soldiers in medical hold status at Fort Riley April 13.

Medical Officers of the Nebraska National Guard were present to assist with the Soldiers' ongoing medical treatment.

Two recently arrived Soldiers suffering combat wounds talked with Lempke at length about their experiences. The two Soldiers were cleared to complete their medical treatment in Nebraska, and they flew home with Lempke's party.

Postal staff sets training

The Postal Operations Center staff will conduct training for unit mailroom clerks, mail orderlies and postal officers from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. April 27 in Building 319.

Prospective mail clerks are required to attend and must bring a memorandum of having completed 20 days on-the-job training.

For more information or to register, call Herb Eley at 239-5411.

Job fair set for May 13

Staff report

Fort Riley's next job fair is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 13 at the Army Career and Alumni Program Center, Room 7, Building 210, on Main Post.

Several employers will be present to visit with Soldiers and family members about available career opportunities.

These employers understand the skills that Soldiers and their family members bring to the workplace and therefore make a

valiant commitment in their recruiting efforts to attend military job fairs, said Jim Yates, counselor at the ACAP center.

Everyone is welcome, whether they want to stay in the Kansas area or seek employment in another state or overseas, Yates said.

Resumes are not required.

Professional ACAP counselors will be available to discuss questions about a successful job search.

Spouses of deployed Soldiers

who plan to leave military service are strongly encouraged to attend to find out what employment opportunities are available so this information can be shared with their spouse, Yates said.

For more information on to find out what employers are scheduled to attend, visit the ACAP Center or call 239-2278 or 239-2248.

Job fair information also is available on "InTouch" and the Fort Riley Web page, www.riley.army.mil.

New MPs continued from page 1

patrols back in the school and housing areas and to add an animal control officer, Zabek said. Those added missions began the week of April 11.

The Montana unit should be at Fort Riley for 12 months, Loper said. The unit was mobilized for 18 months, but that time includes six weeks of training at Fort Leonard Wood and demobilization time at the end of their duty at Fort Riley.

Co. A received its mobilization alert in October 2004. A month later, the company's officer and senior noncommissioned officer leaders were headed for Fort Leonard Wood for training. The rest of the company followed in January 2005.

Two platoons move to Fort Riley

After completing military police training at Fort Leonard Wood, Loper brought his company headquarters staff and two 36-person platoons to Fort Riley and sent a third platoon to help at Fort Lewis, Wash.

Some 1st Bn., 190th FA, Soldiers were previously pulled for Iraq duty with aviation and MP detachments of the Montana National Guard, Loper said, so his company got some augmentees, including five women, from other Montana units when it mobilized.

"So, we had people trained in

several MOSs (Military Occupational Skills)," Loper said. All now are qualified military policemen, he added.

"We have three Soldiers that took nonlethal weapons training, and they are sharing that training with the rest of us," he said. Nonlethal weapons include such devices as taser guns and "bean bag" shotguns that fire a round that stuns and hurts when it hits rather than penetrate a person's body.

Everyone attended Fort Riley's MP Academy and went through the pepper spray training, Loper added. The officers and senior noncommissioned officers took the first sprays at the face. "That was a really eye-closing experience," Loper said.

After being hit with the pepper spray, the MPs had to continue in their mission, said 1st Sgt. Lloyd Nelson. "They had to try to subdue the suspect (who had used the pepper spray)."

Co. A's future is still in question once it returns to Montana, Loper and Nelson agreed. The unit still has its field artillery equipment, but Montana is reorganizing its National Guard, they explained.

When they go home, the Co. A Soldiers may go back to being field artillerymen or they could remain military policemen, Loper said.

The Army has been retraining

National Guardsmen to back-fill military police organizations at stateside posts because so many active duty MPs are needed for the Global War on Terrorism, Zabek said.

The Military Police Corps has become the "Force of Choice" in GWOT, Zabek said. Military police units can deploy quickly, bring more firepower, operate in small groups and conduct police military intelligence operations, Zabek said.

"And, we have lots of interpersonal communication skills because we are interactive with the public every day," he said.

Global war takes large commitment

Because of GWOT, most Army Reserve units have completed their two-year commitments and some active duty units are on their third rotation, he said.

That leaves stateside posts in need of military policemen, and the National Guard and reserve units that have been at Fort Riley in that capacity have served very well, he said.

Zabek expresses confidence in Co. A's ability to fill the post's law enforcement needs. "They're no different active duty Soldiers. All the reserve component units are proficient, competent and physically fit," he said.



Post/Blackmon
Spc. Dominic Del Mar assembles the M-2 .50-caliber machine gun during a gunnery skills test April 14.

Gun skills continued from page 1

all the requirements, Toner said.

"The guys will keep testing until they do it to time standard," he said.

The testing is important to make gunnery run faster and better, said Spc. Cullin Whiteley. "It helps you learn the weapons and correct malfunctions out there on the range. You don't have a lot of time for people to be working on weapons; you got to be out there shooting them and learning them for when we go back to Iraq."

Added to this particular gunner skills test was the M-240B machine gun for the fire support specialists, also known as Strykers, who are attached to the unit. The troop does not have Stryker vehicles assigned to it.

"We've got a platoon of fire supporters from 1-5 (1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery). They are also on 'Humvees,' but because they're not Scouts, they don't have to go through gunnery and qualify the same as we do," Toner said.

The Strykers will go out with the Scouts and shoot at gunnery but will use their own weapon - the M-240B machine gun.

This isn't usually in their gunnery, Toner said, but since it's the weapons systems the Strykers mount on their "Humvees," he said he wanted to include it.

"This isn't a regulatory requirement, but we want to get them the training to shoot," he said.

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Post news in brief

Card needed for self-help

Fort Riley Regulation 420-70, Minor Maintenance Self-Help Program, requires individuals to have a Self-Help Proficiency Card in order to pick up materials or phone in Priority 2 and Priority 3 service orders.

Self-help classes are offered to enable civilian workers and senior noncommissioned officers in grades E-7 and above to obtain a Self-Help Proficiency Card. The next scheduled class will be 9 to 11 a.m. April 28 in Building 307.

To enroll, individuals can submit a memorandum with the candidate's full name, rank or grade, and activity or unit to Ed Kozlowski, or fax the request to 239-8188. Individuals may also drop off the enrollment memorandum at the Self-Help School, Building 307.

For more information on upcoming classes, call Kozlowski at 239-3757.

Locator staff plans training

The post locator staff will conduct official mail and distribution management training from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. April 28 in Building 319.

The official mail class is required for all units and directorates that have personnel who handle official mail.

The class focuses on Private Express Statutes, material that cannot be mailed, classification of mail, international mail requirements and prescribed procedures and responsibilities for administering official mail.

For more information or to register, call Herb Eley at 239-5411.

Irwin pharmacy removes Bextra

The Food and Drug Administration has asked Pfizer, Inc., to voluntarily withdraw Bextra from the market.

Pfizer agreed to suspend sales and marketing of Bextra.

This decision was based on the FDA's conclusion that the overall risk versus benefit profile is unfavorable due to lack of adequate data on long-term cardiovascular safety, reports of serious and potentially life-threatening skin reactions and lack of advantages for Bextra compared with other non-steroidal and anti-inflammatory drugs.

Bextra will no longer be available at Irwin Army Community Hospital.

IACH officials recommends individuals stop taking Bextra and call 239-DOCS during duty hours for an appointment or leave a telephone consult for their primary care manager, who will decide which medication would be suitable to replace Bextra.

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Armor Soldiers train Iraq counterparts

U.S. battalion commander: 'The plan is to work ourselves out of a job'

By Phil LaCasse
2nd Bn., 34th Armor

The Soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, have begun a program of training, supervision and mentorship with the Iraqi army in order to facilitate their transition to a more active role in providing security in Iraq's Diyala Province.

The program's eventual goal is for the Iraqi army to completely take over stability and support operations throughout the country.

"The plan," said Lt. Col. Oscar Hall IV, 2nd Bn., 34th Armor,

commander, "is to work ourselves out of a job. We will do this by training the Iraqi army to support their own security needs."

Every three weeks, classes of close to 50 Iraqi army and Iraqi police train at Forward Operating Base Gabe, the temporary home of the 2nd Bn., 34th Armor. "The difference between our training program and others like it is that the training and instruction is run completely by the Iraqi cadre," said Staff Sgt. Joshua Wilson, of Holliday, Texas.

Wilson serves as the battalion's Iraqi army training noncommissioned officer. Iraqi noncommis-



sioned officers are the primary instructors, and American Soldiers are present only to offer guidance and better instruction if needed.

"The first class did better than we expected," said 2nd Lt. John McFarland, battalion 1A training officer. "They showed us that they

are willing and capable to learn."

Iraqi army Soldiers and police receive training on individual Soldier skills, such as first aid, basic rifle marksmanship and individual movement techniques. The course progresses into squad and platoon level tasks, such as patrolling techniques.

The training at FOB Gabe involves Iraqi army and Iraqi police temporarily leaving their units to train. The Soldiers and police live at FOB Gabe for the two-week training cycle.

In addition to assisting the Iraqi army on the training component of military operations, 2nd Bn.,

34th Armor, personnel are working to ensure that the Iraqi army is able to logistically sustain itself.

"My job here is unique compared to any other job I have ever done," said Sgt. Benjamin Reynolds of Mason City, Iowa. Reynolds is the logistical liaison between 2nd Bn., 34th Armor, and the 213th Iraqi Army Battalion in Baqubah. "I serve as the supply sergeant for the Iraqi army training here, which entails sleeping arrangements, ammunition, food and water coordination, and other basic lifeline items while the IA are going through our two-week training course."

Helmet prevents wound

Embedded shrapnel found hours after attack

By David Foley
Army News Service

CAMP TAJI, Iraq — Wearing his new helmet saved the life of one Soldier, and now he goes nowhere without it.

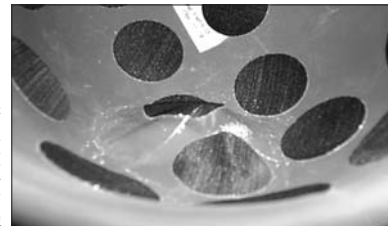
Staff Sgt. Shannon West of the 377th Transportation Company, 68th Corps Support Battalion, 1st Corps Support Command, Fort Bragg, N.C., was riding in the passenger seat of a heavy equipment transport vehicle Feb. 14,

The convoy was on its way from Baghdad International Airport to Logistical Support Area Anaconda, Iraq, to drop off supplies when his vehicle was struck with an improvised explosive device about one mile away from Camp Taji.

The IED instantly disabled West's vehicle, forcing him and his driver, Sgt. Brandon Askew, who was deafened by the blast, to exit the vehicle and get into defensive fighting positions.

"Everything we had was just blown to bits," Askew said.

When the two Soldiers exited the vehicle, they were confronted with increasing levels of small-arms fire. West and his comrades returned fire while devising a plan to get everyone back on the move. However, their troubles were compounded when the driver of the truck two vehicles behind West's HET was unable to see



ANS

Staff Sgt. Shannon West's Advanced Combat Helmet contains an egg-sized knot on the inside, showing the impact of a fragment propelled by an improvised explosive device near Baghdad. West credits the ACH with saving his life.

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Medals

continued from page 1

tion Iraqi Freedom on or after March 19, 2003, to a future date to be determined by the Secretary of Defense or the cessation of the operation.

The area of eligibility encompasses all land area of the country of Iraq, the contiguous water area out to 12 nautical miles and all air spaces above them.

Soldiers must serve 30 consecutive or 60 nonconsecutive days in either area or be engaged in combat during their service or be wounded or injured requiring evacuation from the area.

Denise Harris, assistant chief of the policy section, military awards, U.S. Army Human Resources Command, said the currently serving Soldiers need no orders to receive the medals and that battalion-level commanders generally determine eligibility.

"Typically, the commanders will send a service roster of the award to the personnel center, and it will be included in the Soldiers' records," Harris said. "So, the commanders will make the recommendation."

Soldiers who already have the GWOT Expeditionary Medal for service in Iraq or Afghanistan may apply for the new medal in lieu of the earlier one, Harris said.

"All they have to do is take their orders to their personnel office, and the personnel center will change the records," she said.

Once the new campaign medal is received, the old GWOT medal cannot be worn, Harris said.

Harris said the ribbons for the new awards are in the supply chain now, but the medals won't be available for issue until May 1.

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Post news in brief

Pre-retirement orientation set

The semi-annual pre-retirement orientation will be conducted from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 20 at Riley's Convention Center. Registration will start at 7:30 a.m.

This orientation is for individuals who have submitted a request for retirement, but any Soldier contemplating retirement in the near future is welcome to attend.

The purpose of this orientation is to present information concerning rights, benefits and responsibilities in conjunction with retirement. Soldiers who are eligible for early retirement (medical reasons only) should also attend.

This orientation is a requirement of AR 600-8-7, and Soldiers may attend as many times as they wish. Spouses of retiring personnel and prospective retirees may also attend.

For more information, contact the Retirement Services Office in Building 210 or call 239-3320 or 239-3667.

Clinic offers cancer checks

Irwin Army Community Hospital's Dermatology Clinic will conduct skin cancer screening April 27. No referral is required. To make an appointment, call 239-3627.

Hospital staff offers classes

Irwin Army Community Hospital's Nutrition Care Division offers weight control classes, including family member weight control, a weight support group for family members and retirees and a Weight to Stay program for active duty servicemembers.

For information on these programs, call 239-7644.



Post/Heronemus

Master Sgt. Pamela Jameson of 2nd Bn., 291st Avn., presents her final briefing – a historical analysis of the Battle of the Bulge – to classmates in the first Sergeant's Course April 19 in the Digital Training Center on Custer Hill. First Sgt. Mark Gendron of Co. B, 1st Eng. Bn., made the Commandant's List and Sgt. 1st Class William Schaad of HHG, 937th Eng. Grp., received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Physical Fitness.

Senior NCOs graduate

Video training keeps students at Fort Riley

By Mike Heronemus
Editor

Sixteen future first sergeants graduated April 20 after three weeks of training aimed at preparing them for the top noncommissioned officer position in Army companies, batteries or troops.

All attended classes at the Digital Training Center at Fort Riley, even though the course was taught by instructors at the U.S. Army Sergeant Major Academy at Fort Bliss, Texas.

Instruction took place via videoteleconferences that allowed complete interaction between the instructors and the students, said Master Sgt. Michael Worthy, primary administrator at the center.

When students asked questions of the instructors, they pushed a button so the camera would zoom in on them and give the instructor and student face-to-face connection, Worthy explained.

Students weren't left on their own once the video monitors were

turned off, Worthy added. Two volunteer former first sergeants served as in-class instructors to help the students when they needed it, he said.

Students faced six evaluations, three of them written exams, during the course. Each one must be passed for successful completion of the training.

Fort Riley can normally offer the videoconference first sergeant course once a year. This year the post will offer it twice. The next class will be offered Sept. 26 through Oct. 18, said Sgt. Maj. Adrien Poppert, senior noncommissioned officer supervisor at the center.

A future course is planned for the spring of 2006, he said.

Being able to train the future first sergeants at Fort Riley saves the post a lot of temporary duty money, Worthy pointed out.

Plus, the students get to go home to families at night and on the weekend, he said, instead of being away for up to five weeks.

Helmet

continued from page 3

through the cloud of dust and smoke and crashed into the rear of another vehicle, pinning the passenger under the dashboard, making the rescue more complicated.

Askeew provided cover fire while West and one of his comrades moved to the rear vehicle where they dislodged the wounded Soldier and carried him about 100 yards to a "Humvee" from another convoy that had stopped to help.

All of the Soldiers made it out of the situation with minimal wounds.

Three hours passed before shrapnel seen

More than three hours passed between the time of the blast and when West and his comrades made it back to Camp Taji for the debriefing. That's when West realized he had been hit by fragments of the IED.

"The funny thing was, I didn't know until I got here," West said. "My squad leader said 'Hey Sgt. West, have you seen your Kevlar?'"

"When I took it off, I saw a big cut in it," he said. "When I looked inside (the helmet), I realized what had actually happened. I was surprised."

A fragment of the IED had lodged itself into West's helmet, creating a hole the size of a pencil in the outer shell. The inside of the helmet was protruding into the padding with a bump the size of a golf ball.

West: No doubts about helmet now

West said he had his doubts about the Advanced Combat Helmet when it was first issued to him, but he has changed his mind since.

"I didn't like it. It feels funny on your head and you need to adjust it every time you take it off. The only thing I liked about it is that it's light," he said. "But my faith in the (ACH) is really there. I am glad to see it actually works."

After losing one Soldier and two others receiving serious wounds because of IED attacks, West's company commander, Capt. Scott Williams, was also glad to see the effectiveness of the ACH.

"This definitely saved his life," Williams said while holding West's ACH.

The angle of trajectory probably had a lot to do with it, but if he weren't wearing the helmet, West would have probably died, he said.

Because of the effectiveness of the ACH, West will be awarded the Purple Heart for suffering a mild concussion rather than receiving a posthumous medal, something West said is a blessing, but doesn't completely settle his nerves.

My first few missions back, I was terrified," he said. "I was actually paranoid but after getting back into it, I'm OK. The first two missions were nerve racking, but now it's not too bad."

West and his comrades continue to drive the streets of Iraq taking supplies wherever they are needed, and they always wear their individual body armor and ACHs.

Editor's Note: Sgt. David Foley writes for the Multi-National Corps-Iraq Public Affairs Office.



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Graduates

Sgt. 1st Class Morgan Barnett,
331st Sig. Co.

1st Sgt. Ray S. Chase, HHG/A,
101st FSB

Sgt. 1st Class Cecilia Duncan-
Jones, Det. F, 15th Fin.

Sgt. 1st Class Tyrone A. Francis,
HHG, 101st FSB

1st Sgt. Mark H. Gendron, Co.
B, 1st Eng. Bn.

Sgt. 1st Class Scott A. Heise,
82nd Med. Co. (AA)

Master Sgt. Pamela Jameson,
2nd Bn., 291st Avn.

1st Sgt. Christopher Johnson,
Co. C, 1st Bn., 16th Inf.

Sgt. 1st Class Melvin D. Ken-
worthy, HHG, 101st FSB

1st Sgt. Steven A. Milton, Co. C,
1st Eng. Bn.

1st Sgt. Axel A. Padilla, Co. B,
1st Bn., 16th Inf.

Sgt. 1st Class William R.
Schaad, HHG, 937th Eng. Grp.

Sgt. 1st Class Betty A. Spencer,
1st Replacement Co.

1st Sgt. Frederick Threadgill,
HHG, 541st Maint. Bn.

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Commentary

Friday, April 22, 2005

Fort Riley Post

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Riley Roundtable

This week's question:

If you were the garrison command sergeant major, what would you do to improve Fort Riley?



"I'd bring in more mental health techs. Suicide and homicide rates are too high. It's an issue most people don't like to talk about."

Spc. Brandy Alexander-Rothwell
MEDDAC
Mental Health Tech
Home: Bangor, Maine



"I'd make more activities that are easily accessible -- things like horseback riding, sports teams and card tournaments."

Pvt. Megan Gillum
125th Forward Support Battalion
Medic
Home: Ft. Wayne, Ind.



"I'd extend the hours for breakfast. Half an hour isn't enough time. Weekend hours are kind of rough, too."

Pfc. Michael Haines
NBC operations specialist
1st Engineer Battalion
Home: Fayetteville, N.C.



"I'd try to make it easier to get on and off post."

Staff Sgt. Jim Nixon
Light-wheel vehicle maintenance
HHC, 1st Aviation
Home: Topeka, Kan.



"I haven't seen an outdoor swimming pool. That's something a lot of the Soldiers and their families would use."

Staff Sgt. Gary Schoborg
949th Veterinary Med. Detachment
Home: Eldora, Iowa

Next week's question:

If the Post Exchange or Commissary would carry one product you want but they don't have now, what would you ask for? Why?

Opinions may be e-mailed to the editor at mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil or faxed to the editor at 239-2592. Opinions must reach the editor by close of business Tuesdays to appear in the following Friday's paper.

Living Wills give individuals final say

Personal control

Editor's note: This is the first in a series of articles that will cover general information concerning Living Wills and Health Care Powers of Attorney. This article addresses Living Wills. The next article will cover Health Care Powers of Attorney.

By Hector J. Higuera
Legal Assistance Attorney

Do I need a Living Will? The short answer is "yes," and there is good reason why anyone planning his or her estate should consider including a Living Will.

Recently, we all witnessed the legal battle between the parents of Terri Schiavo and her husband. Terri Schiavo was 26 years old when her heart stopped beating temporarily in 1990, causing severe brain damage. Court-appointed doctors said Terri Schiavo was in a persistent vegetative state, and her husband claimed that his wife would not want to be kept alive artificially. Terri Schiavo's parents doubted Terri had such a wish concerning her end of life and disputed the persistent vegetative state diagnosis.

The legal battle reached Congress, the U. S. Supreme Court and the White House as the parents tried to block a court order that allowed Terri Schiavo's feeding tube to be removed. A properly prepared Living Will signed by Terri Schiavo would have prevented the legal battles between her husband and her parents.

You may consent to or refuse any medical treatment, and you



Capt. Hector Higuera

have the right to plan and direct the health care you will receive if you become unable to express your wishes. You can exercise this right by preparing a Living Will or Health

Care Powers of Attorney.

The Patient Self-Determination Act of 1990 requires all medical facilities, nursing homes, home health agencies and hospices to provide written information to all new patients about their rights under state law to control decisions regarding medical treatment, including a patient's right to execute an Advanced Medical Directive.

A Living Will, also called an Advance Medical Directive, is best defined as a written declaration that informs medical personnel of your desire not to have life-sustaining procedures introduced if you are diagnosed as terminally ill, in a persistent vegetative state or near death.

A Living Will records your wishes concerning medical care in advance of becoming terminally ill, and when you are unable to participate in the decision making process regarding your treatment and about the use of life-sustaining procedures which prolong the dying process.

Once a living will is executed,

it will take effect when you are diagnosed close to death from a terminal condition or in an irreversible coma and you cannot communicate your wishes concerning your medical care. The Living Will must be presented to your attending physician.

Before life-sustaining procedures will be terminated under a Living Will, generally two physicians must certify that you are terminally ill or in a persistent vegetative state and that there is no reasonable hope for your recovery.

The legal definition of a terminal condition and life-sustaining procedures may vary from state to state. A terminal condition is generally defined as an incurable or irreversible condition that without life-sustaining procedures results in death within a relatively short time or a comatose state from which there can be no recovery to a reasonable degree of medical certainty.

Life-sustaining procedures refer to any medical procedures that involve the use of mechanical or artificial means to sustain, restore or take the place of a spontaneous vital function and that, when applied to a patient in a terminal condition, would serve to prolong the dying process.

A competent adult who is age 18 or older can make Living Wills. The document must be signed in the presence of two witnesses who must also be age 18 or older. Witnesses may not be related to you by blood or marriage or be a health care provider or an employee.

Normally, Living Wills do not have an expiration date, but you may choose to revoke a Living Will at any time, as long as you are competent.

Revocation is completed by notifying your attending physician in a signed and dated written document that explicitly states your intent to revoke the document. An alternative method is to physically cancel or destroy an existing living will and any copies.

What is most important is that your intent is communicated to your physician. It is recommended that you consult with an attorney for revocation specifics within your particular state.

It is important that a Living Will be prepared in accordance with the laws of the state in which you are a legal resident. As a military member, you and your eligible family members can have a Living Will prepared by attorneys of the Legal Assistance Office at Fort Riley.

In any case, you will want to discuss with family members, close friends and perhaps with a clergyman or other counselor your decisions about preparing a Living Will and about all the treatments you want and do not want.

For more information, consult with a legal assistance attorney. The Legal Assistance Office is located in Patton Hall, Building 200, on Fort Riley. Office hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday. To schedule an appointment, call 239-3117.

Stripes not automatic

By Brig. Gen. H.B. Bromberg
Director, EPM Directorate

There has been much discussion recently regarding Automatic List Integration for promotion to sergeant. I would like to take the opportunity to clear up some misconceptions.

This new policy does not result in automatic promotions nor does it change Army Standards for promotion. Commanders have the responsibility to deny list integration if the Soldier is not trained or is otherwise unqualified in accordance with the standards outlined in Chapter 3 of Army Regulation 600-8-19, Enlisted Promotions and Reductions.

Unit leadership is still an integral part of the promotion process. The commander makes the final decision on whether the Soldier is ready for increased leadership responsibility. Experience shows that commanders are taking an active role to ensure the quality of the Army's non-commissioned officer corps.

With increased operational requirements due to the Global War on Terrorism, the Army has been struggling with getting otherwise fully eligible Soldiers boarded. Ten years ago, the Army maintained 30 percent of all eligible specialists/E-4s in a pro-

motable status. Today the number has fallen to around 10 percent. This downward trend in promotable Soldiers and the increasing promotion requirements have resulted in an increasing number of NCO shortages.

The Soldiers being integrated and have at least four years in service and, in many cases two years time in grade, are likely combat veterans and most have re-enlisted. These Soldiers are fully qualified for promotion to sergeant. Promotions from this population will only occur in Military Occupational Specialties when the operating strength falls below 100 percent and after all other eligible boarded Soldiers have been selected.

Also keep in mind when we are short sergeants in an MOS, a qualified specialist is stepping up and doing the sergeant's work. So why not promote and pay them for the job they are doing?

The Army has implemented this policy to ensure a viable population of promotable Soldiers exists in order to meet the increasing demand for NCOs. With only one month of list integrated promotions realized, the number of MOSs below 100 percent strength at sergeant decreased by 20 percent and the number of unrealized promotions due to a lack of boarded Soldiers has been cut in half.

Grunt

By Wayne Ulden



FORT RILEY POST

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Your opinion is important to the Post editor and staff. Please take a moment to tell us how well we are doing our job of keeping you informed about what is happening at Fort Riley. Fax the form to (785) 239-2592 or clip and mail this form to Editor, Public Affairs Office, Building 405, Fort Riley, KS 66442, or drop the form at building 405. You may also send your opinions to the staff by e-mail at mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil.

What are your concerns or suggestions for improvement?

Your name (optional) and phone number (if you would like to talk about your ideas):





Post/Skidmore

Dangerous work

Working as a team, Pfc Jonathon Kingman, center, Company B, 1st Engineer Battalion brings up a 240B machine gun as members of his team lay down cover fire. Kingman and the members of his platoon trained at the mini-MOUT site to hone their skills in searching buildings and reacting to enemy fire.

Speaker tells crowd about discrimination

By Cassidy Hill
Asst. Com. Rel. Officer

Born in Stutthof Concentration Camp during World War II, Peter Loth has traveled across America and Europe to share his experiences about the Holocaust.

He spoke about the effects of hatred and discrimination to Fort Riley Soldiers and civilians during the Days of Remembrance Observance at Riley's Conference Center on April 14.

Loth's mother was three months pregnant when she was arrested by the Gestapo and sent to Stutthof, the first concentration camp opened in Poland (Sept. 2, 1939).

Exactly four years later, Loth said he was born in the concentration camp that was known for torture through death marches and its experimental hospital, which was known to make soap out of human bodies.

"Stutthof was known as a death march. They used to take the women, and they just walk them,

strip them nude and march them to the Baltic Sea and they would just collapse, one after the other," Loth said.

"They took the babies out of the mother's wombs and throw them on the ground, and they took their pistols and used them as a target practice," Loth said. "Who can do this? What animal can do this?"

After the war, Loth said he and thousands of other survivors had nowhere to go and nothing to eat. Many, including him, lived in the sewer systems. He was continuously taken from the women he thought was his mother and placed in an orphanage, where he was tortured and raped.

Loth eventually found out that his real mother was alive and living in West Germany. He said his search for her resulted in months of interrogation and rifle beatings by the Russian KGB before he was able to leave for Berlin.

He said his papers detailing the facts about his mother had come from a U.S. Army base in Ger-

many, and that the Russians thought he was a spy knowing someone in the U.S. Army.

After being reunited with his real mother, Loth said he faced abuse and discrimination when he and his family moved to Georgia in 1959.

His mother had married an African American Soldier and had two girls with him, which caused him to be abused by whites and blacks. He said once his stepfather was transferred to Fort Riley, he was treated differently.

"It got better when we moved to Fort Riley, Kan.," Loth said. "There was different people here."

After his time at Fort Riley, Loth said he eventually ran away from his family and that it was years later before he was reunited with his half-sisters and learned he had been born at Stutthof.

In 2002, Loth and his family visited Stutthof, now a museum, to spread his mother's ashes around the camp and so he could forgive and move on with his life.

Post lawyers plan events to celebrate annual Law Day

Staff Judge Advocate Office

Law Day is an annual celebration sponsored May 1 each year by the American Bar Association to educate the public on aspects of the law and to celebrate the rule of law, a cornerstone of United

States democracy.

This year's theme, "The American Jury, We The People In Action," honors the important service that juries perform in protecting the citizenry's freedoms and sustaining the rule of law.

The Fort Riley Office of the

Staff Judge Advocate is sponsoring several events in conjunction with Law Day.

The first is a display table set up from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. April 30 at the Post Exchange.

Several attorneys and paralegals from the Office of the Staff

Judge Advocate will be at the table to answer questions.

They also will be distributing information about Law Day and the available legal services offered by the Fort Riley Office of the Staff Judge Advocate.

Attorneys and paralegals from

the Fort Riley Office of the Staff Judge Advocate will visit all Fort Riley Schools May 2 through May 5 to make presentations to fifth- and seventh-grade students.

The presentations will start with an explanation of the American jury system, and then the stu-

dents will complete a jury selection exercise.

The Fort Riley Office of the Staff Judge Advocate is also sponsoring the 12th Annual Law Day Golf Tournament at Custer Hill Golf Course beginning at noon May 4.

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Post news in brief

Severe weather class offered

Jim Hill of the Directorate of Environment and Safety will give a severe weather briefing to units, directorates and family member groups interested in learning about tornado and lightning safety, what to do and not to do in case of severe weather and learning more about Kansas tornado and lightning statistics and general facts and myths. To get more information or to schedule a class, call Hill at 239-0446.

Repairs close Kitty Drive

Kitty Drive on Custer Hill will be closed until about Aug. 1 while the road's surface is replaced and its shoulders and drainage is improved.

The closed area stretches from the intersection with Desert Storm to the intersection with Estes Road. Both intersections will remain open to traffic.

Heat injury class scheduled

The Preventive Medicine Service of U.S. Army Medical Activity at Fort Riley will offer a heat injury awareness and prevention briefing at Barlow Theater from 9 to 11 a.m. May 4.

The class will cover types of heat injuries, treatment and prevention. Heat injury prevention is a yearly requirement for Fort Riley Soldiers. MED-DAC officials recommend unit commanders send at least two representatives to MEDDAC's briefing so those Soldiers can present the training to their units.

Family members are welcome to attend.

Classes also are available to units on a first-come, first-serve basis on Wednesdays through May 25. Available times for the one-hour classes are 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

For more information, call Sgt. Russell Nurse, Sgt. Scott Fowle or Staff Sgt. Jody Gonzales at 239-7323.

Army seeking CID agents

The U.S. Army's Criminal Investigation Command is seeking qualified applicants to become highly trained CID special agents.

The CID investigates all felony crimes in which the Army has an interest, provides protective service operations, and works closely with other Federal, state and local law enforcement agencies to solve crime and combat terrorism.

To qualify you must be a U.S. citizen, at least 21 years old, possess at least 60 semester hours of college credit and a general technical score of at least 110. A minimum of six months police experience is preferred, but not required. For more information on becoming a CID Special Agent, contact your local CID office today.

Army seeks new warrants

The U.S. Army is looking for highly motivated Soldiers, Marines, Sailors and Airmen to fill its warrant officer ranks. Positions are open in all 41 active duty warrant officer specialties, and the following are experiencing critical shortages:

- Military Intelligence
- Special Forces
- Food Service
- Criminal Investigation
- Airdrop Systems Technicians

Applicants with less than 12 years active federal service are encouraged to apply. For more information, visit www.usarec.army.mil/warrant on the Web or call (800) 223-3735, extension 6 and the last four digits of the phone number.

Revision eases process

Vets' job applications accepted more widely

By Donna Miles
AFPS

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Office of Personnel Management is working to make veterans' preference for federal jobs available to more veterans, including a new revised application that allows federal agencies to accept veterans' disability letters.

The revised Application for 10-Point Veteran Preference, Standard Form 15, is being posted directly on OPM's Web site so agencies immediately can accept Veterans Affairs Department letters of disability, officials said.

Agencies, OPM examining offices and agency appointing officials use the online application to evaluate claims for veterans' preference on applications for government jobs.

The new revisions to the veter-

ans' preference form bring it in line with VA policy, which generally considers disability letters issued since 1991 as proof of a permanent disability.

To further encourage veterans into the federal system, OPM is continuing its Veterans' Invitational Program, visiting military bases and medical centers to explain veterans' preference and outline the procedures for applying for federal jobs.

OPM Acting Director Dan G. Blair, who announced the initiatives in late March, said they reflect OPM's "strong emphasis on the rights of veterans, including employment opportunities."

"We must ensure those who are eligible for veterans' preference receive the benefits to which they are entitled," he said.

Veterans of the armed forces have received some degree of hiring preference for federal jobs

since the Civil War.

Today's law, reflected in Veterans' Preference Code of 1944, as amended, and in Title 5 of the U.S. Code, ensures that veterans who are disabled or served on active duty in the military during certain specified time frames or campaigns receive preference in hiring from competitive lists of eligible applicants.

It also gives these veterans preference in keeping their jobs during reductions in force.

The purpose of veterans' preference, officials explained, is to recognize the economic loss suffered during military service, restore veterans to a favorable competitive position for government jobs, and acknowledge the debt owed to disabled veterans.

More details about veterans' preference are posted on the OPM Web site.

Secretary of Navy: Personnel system good for civil service

By Jim Garamone
AFPS

WASHINGTON — The Civil Service system came into being in the 1880s to foster a professional federal workforce, and the National Security Personnel System continues that spirit, Navy Secretary Gordon R. England told the Senate Armed Services Committee April 14.

England is the Defense Department's senior executive for NSPS. He said in a prepared statement to the committee that the system will preserve worker protections while increasing the responsiveness and flexibility of the DoD work force.

The new system will begin for many workers in July, with full implementation throughout the department scheduled for 2007.

The key changes in the system are a simplified pay-banding structure, a new performance management system that will allow more accountability, performance-based pay and a streamlined hiring system.

The system also will change the disciplinary system and implement a new way of working with unions.

England flatly said that no employee will lose pay in the conversion to the new system. Pay for performance will be the baseline

for the new system.

The pay system will eliminate step increases, which are tied to longevity. Instead, employees will be rewarded for their performance.

England said the department has worked closely with the Office of Personnel Management and the Congress in forming the system. The department also has consulted with DoD employee unions. In February, the department published the regulations that govern NSPS in the Federal Register.

England stressed to the senators that the system still protects workers. The system does not, for example, remove whistleblower protections or tinker with the equal opportunity complaint process. It leaves protections against nepotism and favoritism in place. It does not eliminate veterans' preference.

It certainly does not end collective bargaining, England said, but it does propose changes.

Finally, it will not result in a loss of jobs or opportunities for civil service employees. "The NSPS will create incentives for managers to turn to civilians first, not last, when many vital tasks must be done," England said. "This will ease the burden on our valuable men and women in uniform to do only those tasks that are uniquely military."



Navy Secretary
England

Employees request leave donations

CPAC

Several Fort Riley employees experiencing a personal or a family medical emergency and facing a period of more than 24 hours of leave without pay have requested, as of April 12, donations of other employees' accrued leave. Requesting the donations are:

- Helen Sample of Medical Department Activity, control number CPACLT0504
- Geraldine Wang, MED-DAC, control number CPACLT1004
- Arnald Valdemar, Directorate of Logistics, control number CPACLT2304
- Erik Donovan, Directorate of Information Management, control number CPACLT0205
- David Klug, Directorate of Plans, Training and Mobility,

control number CPACLT0305

• Tammy Nobles, 15th Personnel Services Battalion, control number CPACLT0405

• Julianne McElroy, MED-DAC, control number CPACLT0505

• Barbara Holsomback, Directorate of Public Works, control number CPACLT0605.

To donate annual leave to any of these individuals, employees should complete OPM Form 630-A. The form can be obtained on the CPAC Intranet Web site under "Forms." Completed forms should be forwarded to Kathy Patzner, human resource assistant, at the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center.

For more information, contact your activity's administrative POC or call Patzner at 239-3171.

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Sergeant, dog walk across United States



Post/Meek
Army Reserve Sgt. Guy Choate and his adopted dog, Kaia, stroll along one of the streets in Junction City, on their way to the East Coast.

By Austin Meek
Staff writer

Sgt. Guy D. Choate was bone-tired when he stumbled into the little restaurant in Jerome, Ariz.

"I walked 21 miles that day over a mountain in the snow," he recalled. "I spent about an hour in a porta-john, taking cover from the snow and eating peanut butter."

It would have been easy for the patrons of the restaurant to ignore this stranger with the big backpack and the scraggly beard. Instead, they befriended him, offering Choate a hot shower and a warm bed for the night.

Choate is in the middle of a 3,500-mile walk across the United States. He spent April 11-15 at Fort Riley Public Affairs Office, getting a week's rest before continuing his walk and fulfilling training requirements for his Army reserve status.

It's been a grueling journey filled with blisters, bad weather and sheer exhaustion. But despite the pain, Choate said he has witnessed some genuine displays of kindness.

A man from the Navajo Nation gave him a hot dog and an oatmeal raisin cookie. Mark Elliot, a retired sailor, let Choate spend two nights in the bus that serves as a playhouse for Elliot's six special-needs children. Many people Choate has met along the way have shared their food, their homes and their stories with the walking sergeant.

"I wanted to meet people," Choate said about why he is making the trip. "I'm one semester away from graduating from college, and I have no clue what I'm going to do when I graduate."

"I thought I'd go across the country and see what everyone else is doing and ask them, 'Why are you doing what you do? Why do you live where you live?'"

"Going into these small towns and just hearing why people love to live where they live has really opened my eyes."

In order to make the walk, Choate had to convince his superiors to do six days of training at a time during the walk instead of training one weekend a month for

"Every day, I find another reason that it's worth all the pain."

**—Sgt. Guy Choate
Army Reservist**

seven months. "I called (Army Reserve) (Ret.) Maj. (Jeff) Coverdale, who I served with in Bosnia, and asked 'Can you help me out?'"

Coverdale, the community relations officer in Fort Riley's Public Affairs Office, gave Choate a job and a place to stay. He also provided accommodations for Choate's traveling companion, an 18-month-old husky named Kaia.

Choate adopted Kaia from an animal shelter just outside Flagstaff, Ariz., and credits her with making him push on even when he's tired.

"She's got a lot of energy," Choate said. "She walks me a lot of the time. When I don't feel like

going on, she'll drag me."

Choate admits that there are times when it's tough to keep going. However, he said those times are when he learns the most about himself.

"Every day, I find another reason that it's worth all the pain," Choate said.

"Every afternoon when you're getting so tired and you feel like you can't make it or every morning when you step out of the tent and the sun's barely up and you feel like 'Ok, I want a shower today' ... it's hard. You just dig through your soul. You find out a lot about yourself," he said.

Choate chronicles his trip in a journal that he hopes will be the foundation for a book. Choate is majoring in creative nonfiction writing at the University of Arkansas-Little Rock and will work with his professors on the manuscript when he returns to school.

Choate also carries a professional digital camera with him to document the trip. He was the personal photographer for Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz when Choate was deployed in Bosnia with the 343rd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment.

That job cultivated his interests in photography and journalism, Choate said. Choate's experience in Bosnia also inspired him to learn more about other cultures, he said.

"Bosnia is a beautiful country," he said. "The people there are very sad, but they also have this great beauty."

Choate is now seeing the beauty of his own country firsthand. His journey, which began on Feb. 8 in Huntington Beach, Calif., has taken him through mountains, deserts and grasslands. After leaving Fort Riley, Choate continued toward his final destination: the East Coast. He plans to arrive at the coast around June 1.

When he began this so-called "spiritual journey," Choate was searching. Searching for truth, for compassion, for God, for himself. If nothing else, this trip has shown him that those things can be found in the most unusual places ... like a little ghost town in central Arizona that he remembers fondly.

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Fort Riley Sports & Recreation

Friday, April 22, 2005

America's Warfighting Center

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Sports news in brief

Scramble slated 'Friday the 13th'

Fort Riley's Garrison Spring Scramble is scheduled for May 13 – a Friday. The four-person scramble begins with a shotgun start at noon and includes lunch, prizes, carts and green fees.

Individuals and teams can sign up by calling Tom Pettegrew at 239-2544 or the golf proshop at 784-6000.

Troopers win tennis matches

Five Fort Riley Middle School Troopers won their matches at Washburn Rural April 14.

Collin Reese placed first in No. 1 singles play. Quentin Kimura and Shan- nabel Johnson combined for a first in No. 1 doubles, and Randi Hinkley and Natalie Niebres placed first in No. 2 doubles play.

Barbara Commons placed fourth in No. 2 singles matches. Cody Waterman and Stanley Matthews finished fifth in No. 3 doubles play.

Stuart captures tourney title

Kevin Stuart of Medical Department Activity defeated opponents in table tennis play at King Field House April 10 to win the first such tournament organized by Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers at Fort Riley.

MEDDAC's Mark Musleh placed second and 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry's, Dustin Gilfoil placed third.

About 10 players competed in the event that began about 11 a.m. Players represented 1st Bn., 16th Inf.; MEDDAC; 10th Air Support Operations Squadron; 75th Division (Training Support); and 648th Area Support Group.

Three tables were obtained to support the tournament and food and drinks were available for players, which included some military retirees and civilians.

Run's winners determine team

The Fort Riley Prairie Run consists of three different races, a 10-mile, five-mile and two-mile race. Each race is open to the Fort Riley military community and the general public.

The race is scheduled for July 23. It will start and finish at King Field House.

The five- and 10-mile races will begin at 7 a.m. and the two-mile race will begin at 7:10 a.m.

Awards will be given to the top three finishers in each gender and age category for each race. An overall first-place award will be given to the top male and female finisher of each race.

Any runner who enters before July 13 pays a registration fee of \$10 and gets a T-shirt. After July 13, the registration fee is \$12 and there is no guarantee late entrants will receive a T-shirt.

The 10-mile race will be used to determine the members of an active duty team to represent Fort Riley at the Army 10-Miler in Washington, D.C.

For rules and qualification information, contact the Fort Riley Sports Office at 239-2172.

The registration form is available under the fitness link on the Fort Riley Web site, <http://www.riley.army.mil>

Sharpshooter wins at World Cup



Army News Service Photo
Sgt. 1st Class Jason Parker won a gold medal in World Cup competition April 10.

By Sara Greenlee
Army News Service

FORT BENNING, Ga. – Sgt. 1st Class Jason A. Parker of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit started the United States out on the right foot April 10 by winning the gold medal with a world record performance in the Men's Air Rifle World Cup competition in Changwon, Korea.

The victory secured an Olympic Country Quota Slot for the United States in the 2008 Olympics at Beijing, China.

Parker went into the finals tied for second place with a score of 598

points of a possible 600. He held a final score of 104.7 of a possible 109 to tie the final world record and catapult himself to the top of the competition at the first World Cup of the new quadrennium.

Parker set two World Records in air rifle competition for the World Cup in Munich, Germany, in 1998. He took fifth in air rifle at the 2000 Olympics in Sydney, Australia.

Parker won the Gold Medal and an Olympic Quota Slot for the 2004 Olympics at the World Cup USA in Atlanta, Ga., in 2002. He competed in the Olympics last year in Athens and took eighth place in air rifle.

Sgt. 1st Class Thomas A. Tamas, also of the USAMU, walked away with a silver medal in the men's prone rifle event at the Korean World Cup April 12. Tamas went into the finals in first place with a score of 597 of 600 and hit a 101.5 in the final for the silver.

Tamas, a 2000 and 1992 Olympian, and the prone rifle world record holder, was prone rifle world champion in 1998 as well as winning the gold medal in his event at the World Cup Finals that year.

Editor's Note: Sara Greenlee writes for the Army Marksmanship Unit Public Affairs Office.

U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit

The USAMU trains its Soldiers to win competitions and enhances combat readiness through train-the-trainer clinics, research and development.

For more information on the USAMU, call (706) 545-5436.

Photo finish



Post/Blackmon

Fort Riley Middle School seventh-grader Jenna McArthur takes first in her heat of the 100-meter dash at the Manhattan track meet, its first of the season, April 12. There were two meets the first week off the season. McArthur finished fourth overall in the 100 with a time of 14.52 seconds.

Middle schools begin track, field season

By April Blackmon
Staff writer

Fort Riley Middle School's eighth grade boys took first overall at the Topeka Logan track meet April 14. The eighth grade girls placed third overall in the five-team meet.

Zachary Birchmeier and Forika McDougald led the Troopers' charge, placing first in two events each.

Birchmeier won the 800-meter run in 2 minutes, 24.78 seconds and the 3,200-meter in 12:14.93 – more than one minute ahead of the second-place finisher. McDougald won the 100-meter dash in 12.25 seconds and the 200-meter dash in 25.78 seconds.

Randy Moss took first in the 400-meter dash, with a time of 1:01.03.

The Troopers' 800-meter relay team took home sole first-place honors for the eighth-grade girls. Catherine Carmichael, Kanesha Hamilton, Yolanda Reid and Laura Vician finished in 2:02.35.

The seventh-grade girls' 800 relay team of Danielle Adams, Samantha Hernandez,

Quantisha Howard and Kalae Maio took first with a time of 2:01.90. Jenna McArthur's 12.8 1/2 long jump was good enough for first place, and Amanda Hollis finished first in the 1,600-meter run with a time of 6:31.15.

Thomas Miskevish won two events for the seventh-grade boys. He finished the 100 in 13.22 seconds and the 800 in 2:43.60.

Other Trooper winners

8th grade boys/girls

Second place

800 boys relay team, 2:01.44
Catherine Carmichael, 200, 30.16
George Goring, 75 hurdles, 14.03
Angelique Foye, 800, 2:56.66;
1,600, 6:32.50
Yolanda Reid, 100, 14.18
Christopher Toombs, long jump, 14-10

See Track, Page 10



Post/Guy Choates

Eighth-grader Steven Duke makes his mark in the long jump for Junction City Middle School.

Archery gaining interest on post

Coordinator plans range improvements

By Austin Meek
Staff writer

Gusty winds forced Outdoor Recreation to cancel the Archery Top Gun Shootout scheduled for April 9. But, retired 1st Sgt. Fredrick Leonard, who coordinates Outdoor Rec archery activities, said he is pleased with the interest he's seen in the archery classes that have been offered this spring.

"We've had 15 or 16 people shooting with us every day for the last two months," Leonard said. "We have hour-long classes, but we ended up staying here four hours. The kids didn't want to leave."

Leonard hopes to capitalize on the momentum by adding another class and more tournaments this summer.

"While we have the participation, we can't let it drop," Leonard said. "We're going to add a new archery class this summer, and every month we're going to have a 3-D shoot. That way we'll get everybody out (on the range)."

A 3-D shoot involves targets that are shaped like animals.

Leonard also plans to complete several upgrades on the range this spring.

"We're going to build two 11-foot platforms," he said. "In between the two platforms, we'll have two phone poles so hunters can practice with their tree stands."

Distance markers and bow rests will be added to every station.

"We've got the carpenters and the welders lined up," Leonard said. "By the time we're done, it'll be a really nice facility."

Leonard hopes the renovations will encourage more people to participate in archery activities. He said the sport is rewarding for people of all ages and athletic abilities.

"Archery is the kind of sport everyone can participate in," Leonard said. "You don't have to be the biggest or the fastest."

Despite the poor turnout for the April 9 tournament, Leonard said he is not discouraged, blaming the windy conditions.

"If the weather's bad, archery will suffer," he said. "You just can't shoot in 30-mile-an-hour wind."

For more information about the Outdoor Recreation Center's archery offerings, call the center at 239-2249.

Caution advised when aiding animals

By Michelle Hall
Kansas State University

MANHATTAN – Spring brings new life, from green leaves and flowers to baby animals of all kinds.

It's not uncommon in spring to see baby birds, rabbits and deer on their own.

But don't assume these young animals have been abandoned, a Kansas State University veterinarian said.

Dr. Christal Pollock, assistant

On the Wildside: News About Nature

professor of clinical sciences, said the K-State Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital cares for about 450 wildlife patients each year.

She said although baby animals may appear helpless, most of the time they are not.

All young critters have to learn to fend for themselves. A sick or injured animal is a different story, however.

Pollock offers suggestions

for what to do if a baby animal is found this spring.

Baby birds

• If you find an unfeathered or partially feathered baby bird that has fallen from its nest, place it back in the nest (unless the bird appears sick or injured).

If the entire nest has fallen from the tree, return the nest and babies to the tree.

Watch from a distance to ensure the parents return. "Parent birds do not reject their young just because they have been handled by humans," Pollock said.

• If a nest has been somehow destroyed, create a makeshift nest with a berry basket or plastic butter tub with drainage holes punched in the bottom.

If the nest can be salvaged, place it within the container. Or, line the container with soft, dry

See Animals, Page 11





Sports news in brief

Staff promotes Mom's special

Custer Hill Bowling Center offers something a little different for Mother's Day. The center invites families to take mom bowling on May 8. She will get to bowl free all day.

For more information, call the bowling center at 239-4366.

Programs offer plenty of softball

The Fort Riley Sports Office is coordinating a wide range of softball play this year. Play will be open to Soldiers, women, government contract employees, federal service employees and family members in a variety of leagues.

Leagues being formed include one for unit competition at company, battery and troop level; men's and women's competition at battalion level; a co-ed team league and a community life team league.

Military unit league play is free to teams. Each team in the co-ed league must pay a \$120 fee and each team in the Community Life League must pay an \$85 fee.

Teams must submit letters of intent to play. Forms are available at the Fort Riley Sports Office at King Field House.

Individuals whose unit is deployed and cannot form a team at Fort Riley will be placed on another team, if they want to play.

Entry deadline to sign up a team up is close of business April 27. League play is scheduled to begin around May 10.

The first tournament of the year is the Spring Fling Tournament scheduled for May 7-8. It is open to company level teams, women's battalion teams and community life teams.

For more information, call Barry Sunstrom at 239-3945.

Community walk being planned

A community "Walk This Way" three-mile walk is scheduled for 9 a.m. May 7 as a way for participants to kick off spring physical activity and walk their way to fitness and mental well being while seeing the beautiful sights of Fort Riley.

Participants will receive a free "Support Our Troops" bracelet after the walk. Strollers are welcome.

The walk will begin at the locomotive at Wyman Park, corner of Huebner Road and Dickman Avenue, across from the shoppette.

For more information, call Jan Clark at 239-7250 or Command Sgt. Maj. Kevin Stuart at 239-7738.

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Fort Riley seventh-grader Samantha Hernandez (left) races against Manhattan Anthony Middle School's Emily Beach and Hillary Hendricks in the 75-meter hurdles.

Track

continued from page 9

Third place

400 boys relay team, 56:35
1,600 girls relay team, 5:06.84
Carmichael, 100, 14.19
Cameron Holland, 400, 1:13.97
Rynae McArthur, discuss, 69-10
Reid, long jump, 12-9 1/2
Grace Simpson, 1,600, 6:35.92

Fourth place

Angela Price, 800, 3:03.22
Marina Rodriguez, 400, 1:14.15
Toombs, 100, 12.85

Fifth place

400 girls relay team, 1:04.50
Foye, long jump, 12-4 1/2
Lance Harlow, 1,600, 5:54.92
Jasmine Hudson, 200, 31.56
Bria Jimenez, 3,200, 13:18
Sanitra Sims, 400, 1:15.69

7th grade boys/girls

Second place

800 boys relay team, 2:11.22
Andrew Birchmeier, 1,600, 5:48.57
Esteban Perez, 200, 30.5

Third place

Jenna McArthur, 100, 14.34

Fourth place

400 girls relay team, 1:10.54
Danielle Adams, long jump, 11-10
Kayla Soper, 200, 32.13
Michael Wilkerson, long jump, 13-8; 400 dash, 1:05.72

Fifth place

Taylor Berry, long jump, 10-6 1/2
Jason Elzinga, discuss, 58-8
Kylee Gray, 400, 1:18.03

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Team opens season at Manhattan

The track and field team began their season at Manhattan on a chilly April 12 afternoon.

Zachary Birchmeier and McDougald won first in two events each. Birchmeier finished the 3,200-meter run in 11:30.50 and ran the 800 in 2:23.44 for the eighth-grade Troopers. McDougald won the 100 with a time of 12.71 and took the 200 in 26.46.

Carmichael won two events for the eighth-grade girls. She finished the 100 in 14.38 and the 200 in 29.55.

Jenna McArthur's 12-11 1/2 finish in the long jump took first for the seventh-grade girls. She also took fourth in the 100, with a time of 14.52 and fourth in the 200, finishing in 31.44.

Other finishers

Toombs took third in the 100 for the eighth-grade boys, with a time of 13.23, and finished fifth in the 200 with a time of 22.16.

Eighth-grader Dalton Wagenblast finished third in the 75 hur-

dles in 13.11.

Several eighth-grade girls placed in the meet.

Foye finished second in the long jump, 12-5, and the 1,600, 6:24.13, and fourth in the 800, 2:53.59.

Jimenez placed fourth in the 1,600, finishing in 6:12.03. Rynae McArthur's 29-5 throw put her third in the shot put and her 67-6 discuss throw was good enough for fifth place. Reid finished fourth with her 11-9 long jump. Simpson ran for third in the 1,600 in 6:25.50 and came in fifth in the 800 with a time of 2:57.89.

For the seventh-grade boys, Armogen Walker took second in the 75 hurdles with a time of 14.37 and jumped 13-11 1/2, which was good enough for second place in the long jump. LaDexter Dogans finished third in the long jump, 13-11.

Miskevish placed third in the 800, with a time of 2:42.28, while Andrew Birchmeier finished fifth in the 800 in 2:55.40.

Denver Broncos visit wounded Soldiers

By Michael Dukes

Army News Service

WALTER REED ARMY MEDICAL CENTER, Washington, D.C. — Members of the National Football League's Denver Broncos and the team's cheerleader squad visited recovering war wounded at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., and National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., April 7.

"We came to show our support for our heroes," one player said. He was speaking of the same group of "heroes" that former NFL football player Pat Tillman belonged to before he was killed while serving in Afghanistan - the U.S. military.

"This has been a very emotional visit," said Teresa Shear, the team's cheerleader director. She said the team, cheerleaders and other officials flew to the Washington area from Denver just to visit the troops. "We are very glad we could come out."

The players included quarterback Jake Plummer, safety John Lynch, tight end Jeb Putzier and quarterback Bradlee Van Pelt.

Cheerleaders included Renee Herlocker, Holly Baacke and Kelly

Troester.

Wearing their blaze-orange jerseys, the players visited Walter Reed's occupational and physical therapy clinics, where they met with patients who had everything from blast injuries to gunshot wounds and an assortment of other injuries.

While at Walter Reed, the players also visited patients in the hospital's Ward 57. After a mid-day visit to the naval hospital, they returned to Walter Reed's Mologne House, where they gave out and autographed Broncos jerseys, hats, toy footballs, team photos and cheerleader calendars.

Two Walter Reed patients, Rangers who served with Tillman in Afghanistan, shared their fond memories of the fallen hero with Plummer, who was Tillman's close friend and teammate when they played for the Arizona Cardinals.

Plummer seemed touched by the Soldiers' kind words, and said he had heard about Tillman's popularity among his fellow Soldiers. He said Tillman also was liked by his teammates in the NFL.

The Broncos visited wounded troops at Walter Reed for about six hours. Before leaving, they said they wished they could have spent more time.



Spec. Adrian Vargas talks about his war wounds and about his home state of Colorado with Denver Broncos safety John Lynch during a USO-sponsored trip by players and cheerleaders of the Denver Broncos to Walter Reed Army Medical Center on April 7.

Army News Service Photo

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Sports news in brief

Scavenger challenge slated

Families can exercise, have fun, search for clues and maybe win prizes by participating in the Fort Riley Scavenger Challenge 2005 from 9 to 11:30 a.m. April 23.

Families will be allowed walk, bike or rollerblading around Main Post, visiting historic points of interest in search of clues.

Prizes and games are planned along the route. Light snacks also will be provided.

The hunt begins and ends at King Field House. Families can register between 9 and 10:30 a.m. the day of the hunt and door prizes will be drawn at 11:40 a.m.

For more information, call 239-2813.

Army lawyers plan golf tourney

The 12th annual Law Day Golf Tournament sponsored by the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate at Fort Riley will be May 4 at Custer Hill Golf Course.

The tournament is part of the Fort Riley community's Law Day celebration and is open to local and state law enforcement officials, civic and business leaders, the post community and the surrounding legal community.

The entry deadline is April 27. For more information, call Capt. Bill Yaneck at 239-3117.

Rec Center staff sets up class

The Outdoor Recreation Center staff is offering an orienteering class from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 30 at the Fort Riley Land Navigation Course off Estes Road. Cost is \$10.

The goal of orienteering is to find the fastest route between a series of marked features in the terrain using a Global Positioning System. This class will teach participants the basics of orienteering.

To register for the class or for more information, visit the rec center at 9011 Rifle Range Road or call 239-2363 by April 28.

Fishing Classic set for mid-June

Golfers and fishermen are invited to take part in the Kansas Wildlife Governor's Golf and Fishing Classic June 16-17 at Milford Lake and Rolling Meadows Golf Course in Junction City.

Participants will play golf on June 16, with a special dinner meal sponsored by the Junction City Area Chamber of Commerce and Wildlife auction during the evening hours.

Fishing takes place June 17. Participants can bring their own boat or be placed with a guide and boat.

Past participants have included Kansas Business and Industry leaders, professional baseball and football players, college coaches and athletes, and professional anglers. The Classic is a fundraiser for Kansas Wildlife, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing outdoor opportunities for all Kansans.

For entry forms, contact Connie Hall at (785) 238-2885 or by e-mail at chall@junctioncity.org or Kansas Wildlife Foundation at (785) 843-9453.

Run training under way

Training for the annual Fort Riley Prairie Run has begun. Sessions are scheduled from 9 to 10 a.m. each Monday and Wednesday to help those wanting to compete July 23 in the annual distance runs of two, five and 10 miles.

The 10-mile Prairie Run qualifies runners for the Fort Riley team that will run in the annual Army 10-miler at the Association of the U.S. Army convention in Washington, D.C.

All participants in the training program will be registered for the Prairie Run and receive a T-shirt at no cost.

Officials seek fishing guides

Kansas Wildlife officials invite boat owners to be a guide in the 9th Annual Governor's Fishing Classic June 17. To be a guide, individuals must provide a boat, fishing and safety equipment and fishing assistance for two anglers. There is no fee for a guide to participate in the Classic.

A light breakfast and lunch will be provided on June 17. Anglers will be assigned to guides who do not have specific participants who have registered and paid.

Guides are also invited to attend the June 16 dinner and auction. This year's event is dedicated to U.S. troops serving overseas and at home.

Anyone interested in being a guide should contact the Geary County Convention and Visitors Bureau at 823 N. Washington St. or send an e-mail to chall@junctioncity.org.

Center requires boater's class

Any person born on or after Jan. 1, 1989, and younger than 21 must complete an approved boater safety education course in order to operate a motorboat or sailboat on Kansas's public waters.

People who fall into that age category may operate a motorboat or sailboat if they are accompanied by and under the direct supervision of a person older than 17 who possesses a certificate of completion for an approved boater safety education course or is exempt from this requirement.

Fort Riley's Outdoor Recreation Center will host Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks safety classes from 7 to 9 p.m. May 5 and 6 and 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. May 7. Cost is a \$10 deposit that will be returned the first night a person attends.

A KDWP instructor will certify class attendees to operate boats after they pass a 50-question test given the last day of the class. Class is limited to the first 30 participants 12 years or older who enroll.

For more information, call the Outdoor Recreation Center at 239-2363.

Sports office staff sets events

April 22 – 7 to 10 p.m., Friday Family Fun Night, \$5 per family

April 25 – Noon to 1 p.m., Fitness Yoga, \$2 per class (\$1.50 if paid in advance monthly), bring own mat if you have one, King Field House

April 25 – 5:45 to 6:45 p.m., Cardio Pump Aerobics, \$2 per class (\$1.50 if paid in advance monthly), King Field House

April 26 – 9 to 11 a.m., Mommy and Me Time, \$2 per family, Long Pool

April 27 – 5:45 to 6:45 p.m., Cardio Pump Aerobics, \$2 per class (\$1.50 if paid in advance monthly), King Field House

April 28 – Noon to 1 p.m., Fitness Yoga, \$2 per class (\$1.50 if paid in advance monthly), bring own mat if you have one, King Field House

Fridays – 7 to 10 p.m., open session roller skating, Riley Wheels Skating Rink at King Field House

Saturdays – 6 to 8 p.m. and 8 to 10 p.m., open session roller skating, (\$1.25 stay-over fee for second session), Riley Wheels Skating Rink

Sundays – 2 to 4 p.m., family skate session, \$1 per family member, Riley Wheels Skating Rink

For more information, call 239-2813.

Patrons may get to bowl free

Bowlers get a chance to win a free night of bowling every Tuesday from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Anyone who signs up to bowl at that time receives a ticket for a chance to win. Tickets will be drawn at 7, 7:30, 8 and 8:30 p.m. Whoever has his or her ticket drawn bowls free for that evening.

For more information, call Custer Hill Lanes at 239-4366.

Disc golf gaining popularity

By Austin Meek
Staff writer

It's not uncommon for students at Kansas State University's Salina campus to hear someone yell "fore" as they're walking to class. The campus isn't right next to a country club, and the students aren't dodging golf balls. K-State Salina is home to a brand new, student-built disc golf course, one of several courses in the Fort Riley area.

The idea for the K-State Salina course was born in 2002, when students in a leadership class suggested building the course as a way to improve life on campus. Shana Meyer, assistant dean of college advancement for student life at K-State Salina, said the leadership students took the initiative to turn their idea into reality.

"The student group did an excellent job of outlining everything in their project," Meyer said. "They went through all the steps, from planning to approval by the dean."

Meyer said the K-State Salina students embraced the idea and volunteered to assist with the project.

"Originally, the group had planned on purchasing the baskets from an outside source," Meyer said. "Somewhere along the line it was suggested that we make them here on campus and involve more students."

A group of mechanical engineering technology students designed and built the baskets. The students used computer software to make the plans and then spent hours cutting and welding steel to fit their design. The final touch was to add a Powercat logo on the top of each basket.

"Once we got the baskets designed, most of our spare time each day was spent in the shop," said Tim Rumpel, a senior in mechanical engineering technology at K-State Salina. Rumpel said the project was time-consuming but not terribly difficult. From start to finish, the students spent more than 300 hours building the baskets.

Jared Manly, a senior in mechanical engineering technology, said designing and building a course like the one at K-State Salina does not require a huge budget or a great deal of expertise.

"It was a fairly simple project," Manly said. "In all, I think we spent about \$1,000. The hardest part was just putting in the labor."

Funding for the project came from the campus student activity center, which also loans out discs to be used on the course.

not return. If you check on the babies and they appear healthy and warm, the mother is coming back.

Medical attention

• When it is sick or injured.
• When you know the parents are dead.

• When there is absolutely no way to return the baby to its nest, den or hiding place.

• Wild animals – just like fami-



Post/Meek

Josh Koch, a junior in technology management at K-State Salina, plays a round of disc golf at the course students built on campus.

ly at K-State Salina. Rumpel said the project was time-consuming but not terribly difficult. From start to finish, the students spent more than 300 hours building the baskets.

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In addition to the course in Salina, there are also two disc golf courses in Manhattan – one on the K-State campus and one in Tuttle Creek State Park.

The Pathfinder, an outdoor equipment and sporting goods store in Manhattan, sells disc golf equipment.

Josh Patterson, a Pathfinder employee, said each disc is designed specifically for a certain situation. He recommends players carry a putter for close-range shots and a driver for longer throws.

"The putter is softer so it will absorb the impact when it hits the basket," Patterson said. "The drivers are more aerodynamic. They have a sharper edge and are made

Disc Golf history

Disc golf shares many similarities with traditional golf. The goal is to complete a series of holes in the fewest possible strokes.

Instead of striking a ball with a club, players throw a disc or Frisbee. Instead of aiming at a hole on a green, disc golfers are shooting for a metal basket on a pole.

Disc golf courses consist of nine or 18 holes, and par for most holes is three.

According to the Professional Disc Golf Association Web site, www.pdga.com, the sport became popular in the 1970s.

Today, courses can be found in city parks across the country and tournaments are available for golfers of every skill level.

of harder material."

The Pathfinder also carries mid-range discs that are a combination of a putter and a driver. Mid-range discs are designed to curve either right or left to accommodate doglegs on the course. Patterson said a mid-range disc is useful in certain situations.

"I recommend a mid-range disc as your 'what if' disc," Patterson said. "It's good if you have to throw over a creek or a tree. It's one you're not afraid to lose."

Patterson said the affordability of disc golf equipment draws many people to the game.

"You're looking at \$16 to \$20 for two discs," Patterson said. "It's a pretty inexpensive way to have fun."

Animals continued from page 9

paper towels.

Wire the created nest as close to the original nest as possible, out of direct sunlight.

If it's not possible to wire the nest, place it in a hanging plant potter.

Leave the area and watch to make sure the parents return. Although they may be wary of the new nest at first, once their young beg for food they will feed them.

• If you find a fully feathered baby bird with evidence of tail feathers hopping around, it is probably not injured, even if it isn't flying well. This is a "fledgling."

The adolescent bird can be distinguished from an injured bird. An injured bird will hold its wounded wing lower than the other one.

Do not put a fledgling back in the nest. It will continue to jump out and may hurt itself.

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NASCAR crowd honors troops

By William Thurmond
Army News Service

If you have ever watched a NASCAR race, you could not help but notice the impact modern corporate marketing has had on the nation's fastest-growing spectator sport.

The paint schemes on these NASCAR Busch Series racers featured household names like McDonalds and Fruit of the Loom. But one of the cars did not glorify commerce. It asked for fans' support for a product not available in stores.

It simply asked for fans to pray for Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Coast Guardsmen and Marines.

The number 72 "Pray 4 Our Troops" Chevrolet was driven by veteran driver Donnie Neuenberger, a cancer survivor. The race marked Neuenberger's return to racing following his treatment for follicular non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

P40T.com is a grassroots organization dedicated to encouraging prayer and support for American military forces around the globe.

"You get this busy world that we're in, and we can forget that we have loved ones, friends and family overseas," Neuenberger said. "I think this is very important. I'm 100 percent behind everything our military does. For me, driving this car is an honor."

Neuenberger credited his experience with cancer and his personal desire to recognize the sacrifices of military men and women as motivating him to stay focused.

"I can leave here tomorrow as long as I know that I gave 110 percent. I would never quit. I am very fortunate to be able to do this," Neuenberger said.

A small group of people spent a lot of their own money to encourage folks to pray for troops.

And if I know NASCAR fans, they prayed.



Greg Biffle, driver of the Post It/National Guard Ford, performs a celebratory 'burnout' after his decisive win in the Samsung/Radio Shack 500 at Texas Motor Speedway April 17.

Army race car struggles

By William Thurmond
Army News Service

TEXAS MOTOR SPEEDWAY, Texas — The sky over the speedway during the Samsung/Radio Shack 500 April 17 was clear and bright blue.

Well, almost.

Very close observers probably noticed a small, dark and cruelly persistent cloud hovering over the 01 Army pit box throughout most of the race.

Joe Nemechek drove the Army Chevrolet with the skill and daring his many fans have come to expect, but an inability to dial in the car's handling characteristics on the ever-changing track surface, coupled with two pit-related problems, gave the team a 17th place finish.

"We came in here with high expectations and are leaving disappointed," Nemechek said. "It was a long day out there. We never hit on the right balance and just battled through it."

Throughout the afternoon the team made adjustments on the car, raising and then lowering the trackbar, changing tire pressures, even hammering down the car's

front valence in an effort to improve performance.

"Believe me, we tried everything, but nothing clicked. The car was tight and then it was loose. (We) never had the necessary grip to make a big move," Nemechek said.

So, it fell to another military-themed racecar to carry the day in Texas.

Greg Biffle, who crashed during the previous day's morning practice session and was forced to go to his back-up car, dominated the race in the Post It/Army National Guard Ford, driving for the checkered flag in a decisive manner.

Biffle, who started the race in fifth position, led a total of 219 of the race's 334 laps.

Nemechek started the race in ninth position, but the team's problems began on their first pit stop at lap 24.

During that stop, a tire got away from the crew and rolled across pit road, resulting in a NASCAR-imposed one-lap penalty that dropped Nemechek to 39th place.

For the next 175-plus laps, the car's handling swung from "tight" to "loose" to "mad loose," according to the driver. Throughout those

laps, Nemechek ran farther and farther back in the 43-car field, eventually going a lap down.

Then a timely caution for debris at lap 212 gave the crew a chance to try to fix their racecar.

Unfortunately, that dark cloud was still hovering overhead.

During the pit stop, a problem with the jack caused the team to lose valuable time and track position, with Nemechek falling back seven spots to 30th place, still a lap down.

And then, the cloud seemed to fade, at least a little bit.

The final caution of the race found Nemechek in position to benefit from NASCAR's 'Lucky Dog' rule, enabling him to get back onto the lead lap and into 22nd position with just 26 laps left.

During those closing laps Nemechek pushed his 01 Army Chevrolet to the limit, passing five competitors to claim the team's fourth top-20 finish to date this racing season.

"We never quit and (we) felt like we persevered and salvaged an OK result," Nemechek said.

Nemechek gets first top 10 finish

By William Thurmond
Army News Service

MARTINSVILLE, Va. — Soldiers are quite familiar with the Warrior ethos that says, "I will never quit."

In Martinsville April 10, the Army NASCAR team demonstrated that they, too, know how to battle through adversity and get the job done.

While Joe Nemechek finished the Advance Auto Parts 500 in 10th position, the same spot where he started the race 263 miles earlier, it could have been a lot worse. All afternoon, mechanical and tire problems conspired to disappoint the team for the third weekend in a row.

"We ground our way to a top 10 today," Nemechek said. "The Army car was strong early, and then it got really loose and we went to the rear of the field. Once we put on four new tires, the car started to haul. We were on a move and then the right front tire went down and I got into the wall."

That was another setback that we had to overcome, but we stayed patient. The guys did a great job in the pits and we managed to avoid any big trouble."

A caution at lap 493 led to a quick decision to pit for four fresh tires, a move that the team hoped would give them an advantage in the closing laps.

"We have fresh meat now, boys," Nemechek said over the team's radio. "We'll kick some butt right here."

With three laps to go, the Army car passed Jason Leffler and Matt Kenseth and was moving to the front when the checkered flag fell.

The race's result was good news for team and a personal victory for Nemechek.

It was the team's first top 10 finish in the 2005 NEXTEL Cup season. It also was Nemechek's career best on the famed Martinsville short track, where he never got better than 14th in 21 previous races.

"It was our best finish of the year," said Ryan Pemberton, the Army Chevrolet's crew chief.



The Army Chevrolet pit crew changes a tire during a stop late in the April 10 race.

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Fort Riley Community Life

Friday, April 22, 2005

America's Warfighting Center

Page 13

Community news briefly

Club seeks requests for aid

The Officers' and Civilians' Spouses' Club is accepting requests for financial assistance in its spring disbursement for 2005.

Requests will be accepted until April 30. Each request should include the organization's name, the name and phone number of a point of contact, the specific amount of money sought, how the donation would be used and the organization's mission.

Requests from teachers should be consolidated and submitted by the principal or Parent-Teacher Association representative of their respective school.

All requests must be postmarked no later than April 30 and be sent to OCSC, Attn: Community Assistance, P.O. Box 2482, Fort Riley, KS 66442.

For more information, send e-mail to Brenda Wise at www.fortrileyocsc.com.

Community invited to dance

Riley's Conference Center will be jumping from 8 p.m. April 22 to 1 a.m. April 23 for military couples at least 18 years old who want to dance and party.

Riley's will provide light refreshments from 10 p.m. to midnight and there will be a cash bar available for revelers at least 21 years old.

Parties must show a military ID at the door and pay a \$5 cover charge. For more information, call 784-1000.

Curious George story hour set

Fort Riley's Post Library staff invites children to story-times at 1:30 p.m. every Saturday. Children can hear a story and make a craft to take home. A light snack will also be served. All children are welcome; however, parents must accompany children under the age of 10.

The library is featuring stories about monkeys during April, and the featured author is H.A. Rey, author of the "Curious George" series.

Two children discover a mysterious game that turns their quiet house into a dangerous jungle in "Jumani" on April 24.

"Don't Wake Up Mama!" is the story on April 30. Five little monkeys try to surprise their mother by baking a birthday cake, but the firemen have to come when the monkeys burn the cake.

The library is in Building 5306 on Custer Hill. Library hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. on Sundays. The library is closed on Mondays.

For more information, call Victoria Martin at 239-5305.

Membership meeting slated

The Enlisted Spouses' Club will conduct its monthly membership meeting at 6:30 p.m. April 27 in the Armed Services YMCA, 111 E. 16th St. in Junction City. The meeting will be followed by a baby shower for the American Red Cross, with collected baby items donated to the Mother's Outreach Program at Irwin Army Community Hospital.

For more information about the event and about the club, contact ESC President Sherri Miller by e-mail at escpresident@hotmail.com.

Pet owners must comply with policies

By Mike Heronemus
Editor

Pet owners who violate certain provisions of "Riley's Rules" face punitive action if they neglect their pets or allow them to run loose, cautioned Lt. Col. Anthony Zabek, Fort Riley provost marshal.

"Riley's Rules" is the compilation of the post's command policies.

The policies state specific requirements for registering and caring for pets kept by families liv-

ing in post housing. Free-roaming pets, such as cats and dogs, are limited to three per residence, and some pets, including ferrets, are prohibited, according to the policies.

Fort Riley Regulation 40-18 spells out the requirements pet owners must follow, Zabek pointed out. "It is a medical services regulation, not a provost marshal regulation. We are named as the enforcing agency for the regulation," Zabek said.

Most complaints the military

police receive concern pets running loose or being neglected, he said. When warranted, military police will ticket pet owners, he said.

Ticketed pet owners could face punitive action, including referral to the post's Well-Being Board and possible loss of their privilege to live in family quarters.

Pet owners could also face appropriate administrative or disciplinary action, according to Policy 5-11. Violations could result in prosecution under provisions of

the Uniform Military Code of Justice, particularly Article 92(1), for military members. Civilian offenders, including family members, may be subject to prosecution before a U.S. magistrate under provisions of Kansas Statute Annotated 21-4310.

In recent months, military police handling of pet violations was limited to calls to the MPs from people who observed pet neglect or pets running loose, Zabek said. MPs were not actively patrolling and watching for viola-

tions. That could change in the near future, he warned.

A newly trained unit of Army National Guard military policemen stands ready to augment the force already patrolling Fort Riley, Zabek said. "We're going to talk about assigning someone from that unit as an animal control officer so we can handle more calls and do more patrolling," he said.

"People need to take care of their pets and to follow post regulations," Zabek said. But, if viola-

See Pets, Page 15

Luring hobby



Micah Talbert (right) receives some tips on casting from DES employee Shawn Stratton. Talbert caught her first fish at the DES fishing derby.

Anglers participate in Moon Lake derby

By Austin Meek
Staff writer

Anglers of all ages gathered at Moon Lake on April 16 for a fishing derby sponsored by the post's Directorate of Environment and Safety.

About 100 people participated in the event, said Craig Phillips, chief of conservation and restoration. The participants ranged from experienced anglers to first-time fishermen.

Moon Lake was stocked with several hundred rainbow trout prior to the event, Phillips said. Five fish were marked with a tag, and prizes were awarded for pulling in a tagged trout.

Meghan Hitchcock was the only angler to reel in a tagged fish. She received a tackle box for her catch.

Members of the Shimp family also had a successful day, catching nearly 20 fish. Three generations of Shimps participated in the fishing derby — John Shimp, his son

John and his grandson Mathias. The elder John Shimp said the secret to trout success was Powerbait, scented dough that attracts trout.

"Powerbait is good stuff," he said. "That's what I fish with up in the mountains."

The younger John said his family fishes at least once a week during the summer. He said the family usually fishes at Tuttle Creek but has started fishing more on Fort Riley since the post stopped requiring a post license to fish.

DES employees helped instruct beginners on basic fishing techniques. Phillips said the event's goal was to provide a relaxed atmosphere and give anglers of all ages and skill levels an opportunity to enjoy themselves.

"We toned (the derby) down a little bit from past years," Phillips said. "We're just helping people fish." Past years included outdoor recreation displays, equipment displays and drawings for prizes.



John Shimp (left) demonstrates how to remove the hook from the fish's mouth while his grandson Mathias Shimp (middle) and Trevor Hoyle (right) look on.

Society hosts homes tour

Event helps public walk post's history

Staff report

Members of the Historical and Archeological Society of Fort Riley and residents of homes on "Officer's Row" will host tours of 11 historic homes on post for the general public from 2 to 6 p.m. April 24.

The "self-paced" tours cost \$5 per person and begin at St. Mary's Chapel. The last ticket sales will be at 5 p.m., and children should not be taken on the tour that includes homes on Barry, Forsyth and Sheridan Avenues.

Tickets also are available at Prairie Lane, (785) 238-7300, in Chapman; Gatherings on the Prairie in Junction City; Applesseed Art & Frame, (785) 539-6411, and Campbell's China & Gifts, (785) 776-9067, in Manhattan; and The Shoppe, 239-2743, at the U.S. Cavalry Museum, 239-2737, on Fort Riley.

Tour attractions include the 11 stops on historic Main Post, a Victorian Tea with "Libby Custer," people dressed in period costume and carriage rides. Suggested donations will benefit Fort Riley Soldiers wounded and killed in action and their families.

The society's tour of historic homes on post is its longest-running event.

The historical society has sponsored many events over the years, and some have become successful annual traditions, such as Apple Day and the Ghost Tours. Others, such as the Prairie Christmas, have been discontinued. But no society event has as long and varied a history as the annual historic homes tour.

People taking the tours get a chance to see inside a select number of Main Post homes dating from 1855 to 1950, experiencing the homes' architecture and the unique decorating styles and col-

See Tour, Page 14

Families can overcome financial struggles

Editor's note: This is the fourth article in a series about a workshop that offered open discussion about personal problems and issues relating to Soldier deployment to Iraq and the resulting single-parenting responsibilities spouses face at home.

By April Blackmon
Staff writer

Money can be a source of trouble for anyone at any given time.

Recovering from financial problems may be difficult, but it can be a reality, said Army spouse Marian Mueller.

Marian shared her story with Take Hold of Reality and Invest for Victory in the End (THRIVE) workshop attendees at Fort Riley March 31.

Before joining the Army, Marian's husband, Tyson Mueller, worked in the information technology industry. After Sept. 11, 2001, his job was eliminated. A few

Learning to THRIVE

months later he decided to join the Army.

While life was different for the Muellers once they became a military family, Tyson's child support payments to a previous spouse were based on his former salary.

"When we came into the Army, we were paying \$823 a month, and my husband is an E-4. So you can imagine what kind of money that left over," Marian said.

The extra money Tyson made while he was deployed in 2003 went to catching up and keeping up on the child support, Marian said.

"During his first deployment, there was no extra money, none," she said.

It took awhile for the Muellers

to stabilize their finances. By being strict on what they spent their money on, they were able to get to a "manageable level," Marian said.

"Don't ask me how I did it, because thinking back about it now, I don't know how I did it. But, needless to say, we didn't eat out a lot. There were not a lot of extra treats. There were no savings when he came home. But I did get it to a manageable level, and that's where we are today,"

See THRIVE, Page 16





Community news briefly

Stay-home kids offered tips

School Age Services is offering "Home Alone" training to children 10 and older. The training focuses on skills children need to remain safe if they are home alone.

Classes are scheduled from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. May 13, June 16 and July 14 in Building 6620.

Cost for the class is free to children enrolled with Child Youth Services and \$10 for children not enrolled. For more information, call 239-5077 or 239-9478.

Free auto classes offered

The Auto Skills Center offers free basic and advanced automotive repair classes. The basic class is offered from 6 to 7 p.m. the first and third Thursday of each month. The advanced class is offered from 6 to 7 p.m. every second and fourth (April 28) Thursday. For more information, call 239-9764.

Tour continued from page 13

lectibles of the current occupants.

The first tour took place on Dec. 15, 1974, a little more than a year after the historical society formed and several months after it had acquired Custer House Side A for museum purposes.

The homes on that tour were decorated in the mode of the 1860s with many ideas for decorating taken from a handwritten manuscript by Elizabeth Custer titled "Christmas on the Plains." That manuscript described holiday activities on a frontier post.

Many frontier posts at the time were devoid of shops, so military wives had to use imagination and resourcefulness to transform their surroundings into the proper Christmas setting.

In her manuscript, Mrs. Custer told of a young mother who wanted to give her son a Christmas tree, but because evergreens were scarce, she decorated a cottonwood sapling. A cottonwood sapling with hand-made period decorations, such as wooden Noah's ark figures, apples with cloves and curled wood shavings stained a vivid green, was recreated at the Custer House for the first homes tour event.

Society members also served tea and homemade cookies from the 1880s through the early 1900s that were popular with the tourists.

If you go:

Tourists wanting access to Fort Riley but not having a government-issued vehicle registration sticker will have to show photo IDs of all occupants and current vehicle registration and insurance documents to enter the installation.

The following year, the homes tour remained much the same in theme, but in 1976 it was held in the fall with a harvest theme and an antique show.

From 1974 until well into the 1980s, all proceeds from the tour went to the restoration of Custer House Side A. As the years went by, special attractions were added, such as horse and carriage rides, 1st Infantry Division band concerts, unit displays and quilt displays. Beginning in the late 1980s, the society added apple pies to the homes tour.

The Custer House and the commanding general's home (Quarters 1) have been part of the tour all 22 years.

Editor's note: Joanne Gulotta, research historian for the Historical and Archeological Society of Fort Riley, contributed the article.

Committee issues report

Panel recommends family-friendly initiatives

By Gerry J. Gilmore
AFPS

WASHINGTON — A Defense Department-sponsored military women's advisory panel recommends that the armed forces discontinue the practice of simultaneously deploying both military parents of minor children.

That is among several top proposed changes the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Armed Services, known by the acronym DACOWITS, cited in its 2004 report. The committee advises senior DoD leaders on issues and policies related to the recruitment and retention, treatment, employment, integration and well-being of women in the armed forces.

"Our recommendations are intended to improve the military lives of servicemembers and their families and to ensure that they believe their sacrifice is worthwhile and appreciated," according to a statement released by the committee.

Some other significant recommendations the committee urged

DoD to adopt include:

- Developing sabbatical programs and allowing military families the option of remaining at assigned installations during critical family events;

- Evaluating how military training impacts on the stresses and circumstances of single parenthood and encouraging military leaders to strongly support family readiness programs;

- Having the armed services quickly implement a new definition of sexual assault into the Uniform Code of Military Justice for consistent reference in training and information collection, and by military law enforcement agencies; and

- Ensuring that the official definition of what constitutes sexual assault within the military establishes a clear legal standard that's distinct from other sex-related offenses.

DoD has established new privacy guidelines to become effective in mid-June that "will encourage more victims of sexual assault to come forward and seek help," David Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readi-

ness, announced March 18 during a Pentagon press briefing.

The committee also recommended that the military assess the effectiveness of Web-based family support programs such as Military One Source.

DACOWITS didn't specifically address recruitment issues in its report, but the committee noted that concerns contained within the spheres of retention, deployment and sexual assault could affect military recruitment efforts.

In gathering data for its 2004 report, DACOWITS members visited 14 military installations in the United States and abroad, conducting 70 focus groups consisting of military members and spouses.

The committee had three service-wide priorities to research in 2004: personnel retention, deployment and sexual assault.

The 13-member group, currently chaired by retired Marine Corps Lt. Gen. Carol Mutter, is made up of men and women selected on the basis of their experience in the military, as a member of a military family, or experience working with women's or family-related issues.

Got story ideas? Call the editor at 239-8854.

DAILY UNION

6 x 14"

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POST SERVICE DIRECTORY

Community news briefly

Prevention ideas taught

A "Child Lures" workshop from noon to 3 p.m. April 25 will offer prevention strategies to spouses of deployed Soldiers who want to keep children safe.

The class will be taught by Billy May, an Army Community Service family advocacy prevention educator, at the Soldier and Family Support Center.

Free childcare for children ages 6 weeks to 12 years will be provided. Parents must sign them in at 11:30 a.m. and bring the children's shot records.

For more information, call 239-9435.

School to host spring carnival

The Fort Riley Elementary Spring Carnival will run from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. April 30. The carnival will include food, games and outdoor exhibits. Tickets are required for all food and games. Tickets will be on sale at the school April 25-29 at a cost of five for \$1. Tickets will be four for \$1 on the day of the carnival.

Post-wide yard sale scheduled

Fort Riley will host a post-wide yard sale open to the public from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 30. People without a government identification card must show a valid vehicle registration, proof of current auto insurance and a valid driver's license to gain entry at Fort Riley's access points.

Families slate special 'Fling'

The Exceptional Family Member Program and the New Parent Support Program will host a Spring Fling from 10 a.m. to noon April 30 at the Soldier and Family Support Center, Building 7264.

Participants will make May Day baskets, design and decorate May Poles and fly kites. All participating families need to be enrolled in the programs and should RSVP to 239-9435 by April 24.

Crafts center classes posted

April 24 – 1 to 4:30 p.m., scrapbooking get-together

April 25 – 7 p.m., crochet, knitting and cross-stitch

April 25 – 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., intermediate and advanced stained glass

April 26 – 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., intermediate and advanced stained glass

April 26 – 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., wood class (flower boxes)

April 26 – 6 to 9 p.m., introduction to matting and framing

April 27 – 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., introduction to stained glass

For more information, call the Arts and Crafts Center at 239-9205.

Spouses plan 'fun' brunch

Members of the Officers' and Civilians' Spouses' Club will celebrate the beginning of summer May 19 with the club's last function until its Welcome Tea in August. The "Fun in the Sun" brunch is planned for 9:30 a.m. at Riley's Conference Center and will feature a breakfast buffet.

Cost is \$8 per person. Those wishing to attend should RSVP to Janelle Allen at <http://www.fortrileyocsc.com/> no later than noon May 11.

BOSS activities announced

April 22 – Six Flags at Arlington, Texas, trip

April 29 – Cinco de Mayo trip to Fort Sam Houston, Texas

For more information, call 239-8147.

Pets

continued from page 13

tions are spotted, Zabek said his MPs will respond to the situation and deal with it to whatever extent is appropriate.

Post pet policy:

Caged animals, such as fish, lizards, birds and small mammals are allowed in barracks (with the commander's approval) and family housing units. Snakes and poisonous reptiles are prohibited.

Only three pets, other than caged pets, may be kept in each individual's quarters or family housing unit.

All dogs and cats kept in government quarters must be registered with the Veterinary Treatment Facility on post within 10 days of their arrival or acquisition. Written verification of rabies vaccination must be presented when pets are registered.

Registration tags must be attached to the pet's collar, which must be worn at all times.

When a registered pet is sold or given away, it remains the responsibility of the old owner until it is reregistered or removed from the installation.

Dogs weighing more than 55 pounds must be kept in an area surrounded by a six-foot chain link fence. Some smaller dogs may be required to be kept inside a fenced area, based on their temperament.

Outdoor pets must be tethered on a chain of not less than six feet nor more than 15 feet long, as long as they cannot wander closer than four feet from common use areas, such as a walkway or playground.

Outdoor pets will not be tethered to trees or shrubbery or to buildings in a way that would damage the building.

Dogs must be kept on a leash not exceeding six feet in length when in common use areas and the person with the dog must be physically capable of controlling the animal.

Pet owners must provide sufficient and wholesome food and water daily and appropriate veterinary care to prevent suffering by the animal.

Each pet kept outside must have a shelter with three walls and a roof. A screened-in porch is not sufficient shelter.

Shelters must be large enough for the pet to sit, stand and lie in a normal manner and to turn around freely.

Quarters and assigned yards must be cleaned daily to prevent parasites and feces deposited in the area will be removed immediately.

Source: Fort Riley Regulation 40-18



Walkers try to sit in a numbered chair of their choice after the music stopped in the plant and candy bar walk in Susie Weir's classroom at Custer Hill Elementary School. The annual school carnival April 15 offered the winner of each "musical chairs" event his or her choice of a potted plant or a candy bar.

Post/Heronemus

School hosts carnival

By Mike Heronemus

Editor

Excited kids, patient parents and teachers serving hotdogs or running games filled the hallways and rooms at Custer Hill Elementary School after normal school hours April 15.

They all showed up for the annual school carnival, an event the teachers organize so their students and their families can have some fun and to raise money for playground equipment at the same time.

Donna Krumm, one teacher on the committee that organized the carnival, couldn't remember how long the carnival has been taking place, but she's been at the school for the past 15 years and could remember one each of those years.

Each classroom offered children players a different activity, ranging from sticking their arms through the mouth of a painted Spongebob Squarepants to "fish" for a bag of cookies, to plucking suckers off a large cardboard tree

to taking a chance on winning a cake, potted plant or candy bar in versions of musical chairs.

Some events awarded prizes to winners; other awarded Eagle Bucks to winners. The Eagle Bucks could be used to buy items at the school's General Store. The store contains "lots of fun toys for the kids," Krumm said.

The carnival included food (hot dogs, chips, nachos and drinks) and a drawing at the end to give away the themed gift baskets created by each grade's students and teachers.

IACH unveils Web site

By Jan Clark

LACH

The Irwin Army Community Hospital Physical Therapy Clinic and Information Management Division recently unveiled a new Web page on the Irwin Army Community Hospital Internet Home page. This is a patient education and information page with links to education and self-care techniques for 34 common joint, muscle, tendon and ligament conditions or injuries.

Additional pages include information on exercise and weight loss, diabetes and exercise, and pregnancy and exercise.

To access the Web site, go visit <http://iach.amedd.army.mil/departments/phyTherapy.asp> or visit the IACH Home page at <http://iach.amedd.army.mil> and click on the Physical Therapy link on the left side of the page under the "For Patients" column.

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Community news briefly

Teen activities planned

April 22 – 8 to 10:30 p.m., middle school dance
April 23-24 – 8 p.m. to 6 a.m., middle school lock-in
April 29 – 6 to 11 p.m., movies in Manhattan
April 30 – 5 to 11 p.m., family potluck
 For more information, call the Teen Center at 239-9222.

Rally Point offers fun

April 22 – 5 to 8 p.m., Family Night with family friendly movie, music and buffet
April 23 – 11 p.m. to 4 a.m., Late Night with DJ Monroe
April 27 – 5 to 9 p.m., Wednesday Wing Night
April 28 – 5 to 9 p.m., 95-cent cheeseburgers
April 29 – 5 to 8 p.m., Family Night with family friendly movie, music and buffet
 For more information, call 784-5434.

Scouts seeking volunteers

The Girl Scouts are looking for volunteers who can devote at least two hours each week for two months this summer on post.
 To volunteer or for more information, call (800) 432-0286, ext. 44, and ask for Nina Keeler.

Charlie Daniels visits Camp Victory



Charlie Daniels and the Charlie Daniels Band play for throngs of Coalition troops near the Sports Oasis Dining Facility at Camp Victory, Iraq, April 10.

U.S. Army Photo/Spec. Jeremy Crisp

By **Jeremy D. Crisp**
Army News Service

CAMP VICTORY, Iraq – Thousands of fans cheered the Charlie Daniels Band April 10 during a two-hour performance for coalition troops that was part of a tour through Iraq and Afghanistan.
 Daniels said he enjoys putting on shows for troops, and all his band members jump at the chance to go on a tour like the one to Iraq and Afghanistan.
 "I told the guys, 'Anyone that doesn't want to go doesn't have to, but would you like to go to Iraq and entertain the troops?' Everybody wanted to go," Daniels said. "There were people that wanted to go, but we just didn't have the room. Everybody was excited about this opportunity, and everybody is having a good time."
 Daniels and his band put on a show that included timeless favorites including "The Devil

Went Down to Georgia," "Legend of Woolly Swamp" and "Drinking My Baby Goodbye," and other songs using Daniels' trademark mix of country, bluegrass, jazz and blues.
 Daniels said he does these types of shows because, "You guys don't get a show every day. You can't walk down the street and go into a club and hear a band play. That's what makes this so very special for us. We came over here to try and make some people happy."
 Dressed in full desert camouflage and a black cavalry Stetson hat, Daniels met with fans after the show. He signed autographs, shook hands and had pictures taken with troops before he and his band members closed out the evening.
 Spc. Laura A. Drake, of Detachment B., 18th Personnel Service Battalion, Fort Bragg, N.C., said a show like Daniels' boosts morale and allows Soldiers to relax.
 "I definitely had a great time,"

Drake said. "It's a chance to get away and do something fun. Being able to come to something like this lifts all of our spirits."
 Daniels said he and the band let the fans back home know they were coming to do this tour, and asked for their support for all the servicemembers fighting for the United States.
 "When we would go to our concert dates back home, I would tell the crowd that we were going to embark on a tour through Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait," Daniels said. "I would tell the crowd, 'We would like to know if you would like to send a message to the troops?' And the crowd would stand and up and give a thunderous yell, and I said, 'We'll tell them you care.' That's what we're doing."
 "I'm telling you now," Daniels said, "the people of America care for the troops and they have great respect for their mission, nobody more so than I."

THRIVE continued from page 13

she said.
 While they're financially OK right now, Marian said she still handles the family's money in a way that honors her husband while he's deployed.
 "This money isn't just (for going) to work from nine to five ... this is money that he could die for; that he's risking his life every day to get. I just passionately feel that it should not be spent frivolously," she said.
 THRIVE workshop coordinator Renee Teetsel agreed.
 "For your husband to be over there and know, absolutely know, that you are handling things with integrity ... that you are paying the bills on time, putting some money away and not blowing it and running up the credit card, that means he can focus on what he has to do and that's huge," Teetsel said.
 Teetsel said military spouses need to learn two big lessons about dealing with finances. "The big huge 'do' is save, and the big huge 'don't' is debt," Teetsel said. "I can imagine that it would be easy to feel like, 'Oh, I'm in this miserable situation and I need to get away' or 'Oh, my poor children, their dad's not around' and buy them some-

thing they don't need."
 "When I start having the 'Oh, poor me's,' I just stop and kind of reflect on what circumstances my husband is dealing with right now. He's not getting to go to a restaurant. He's not getting to have brand new sheets on his bed. He's not getting to get his nails or toes done. He doesn't have any of those special luxuries that he has when he's back here. Now I don't think we need to deprive ourselves but ... I don't think we're deserving of extra treats just because he's gone," Marian said.
 Another Army spouse, Karen

Pool, suggested ways other than spending money to cope with a husband being away. Go on walks with friends, have picnics, go to the park and have neighborhood potlucks, she said.
 "I think being connected with your community is very important," Pool said. "That helps a lot, having people to hang out with."
 "There are so many things and activities that our post offers for little or no money. All we have to do is take advantage of them ... You don't get that in the civilian world ... If you did everything the post provides you, you would not

stay home one day. It's just amazing the things they provide us," Marian said.
 Other opportunities exist, as well, Marian said. If you're struggling financially and qualify for government assistance, take advantage of those opportunities.
 "You know your husband is risking his life. If anybody in the United States deserves (assistance), it's people in the military. So if you know somebody who's struggling that hard financially, encourage them to seek those avenues out and take advantage of them," she said.

COLLEGE HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH 2 x 2" Black Only 2x2 Coll Hghts Apr TF	MANHATTAN REGIONAL AIRPORT 2 x 2" Black Only 2x2 Man Reg Air-Let Some 9324	KANSAS PRESS 2 x 2" Black Only Banner/4-19, 4-20 & 22
PARKER REALTOR 2 x 2" Black Only 2x2 Parker Real 4/22 1847	SCREEN MACHINE 2 x 2" Black Only 2x2 Screen Mach Apr TF	MANHATTAN SHOE REPAIR 2 x 2" Black Only 2x2 Manhattan Shoe Repair
EASTSIDE MARKET-MANHATTAN 2 x 8" Black Only 2x8 Eastside 4/15	THE COLUMBIAN 2 x 8" Black Only 2x8Theatre04/15Show1560jd	HAMBRIGHT, CALCAGNO & DOWNING, 2 x 8" Black Only 2x8TroyState3/18/05





Travel & Fun in Kansas

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America's Warfighting Center

Friday, April 22, 2005

Leisuretime ideas

At the movies:

The Barlow Theater doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$3.50 for adults and \$1.75 for children 11 and under. Children under age 5 are free except during children's matinees or expected sell-outs.

April 22 – Hostage (R)
April 23 – The Ring 2 (PG-13)

April 24 – Ice Princess (G)
April 28 – The Ring 2 (PG-13)

For more information, call (785) 784-2226 or 784-2640.

Junction City:

What: Fishing Tournament. Features a unique format: five different categories for anglers to enter.

When: 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 22-23

Where: 823 N. Washington St.

Phone: (785) 238-2885
Admission: Free

Manhattan:

What: Find Your Element Adventure Sports & Music Festival. Three-day event featuring local sports and music with an emphasis on mountain biking and local trails. Demonstrations and activities held on two days as well as live local music, vendors, and a mountain bike race on Sunday.

When: 3 to 11 p.m. April 22, 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. April 23 and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 24

Where: 8800 Road W. in Randolph Fancy Creek State Park
Phone: (785) 776-8829
Admission: Minimal

What: "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead." Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Hamlet's college chums, and their story is what happened behind the scenes in Shakespeare's play. What were they doing there in Elsinore, anyway? The players come and go, Hamlet comes through reading "words, words, words," many foul deeds are done, and all the while the bungling duo are clueless as to what is actually going on around them.

When: 8 p.m. April 22-23 and April 27-30
Where: Nichols Theater on the Kansas State University campus

Admission: \$11 for general public, \$7 for students and senior citizens, groups of 10 or more may receive a discounted rate.

Phone: (785) 532-6857

Salina:

What: By-Gone Days. Demonstrations of rural and agricultural lifestyle including running Sawmill, Steam Engine, re-enactments, one-room school in session, and activities for the kids.

When: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 23 and April 24

Where: 1100 W. Diamond Drive, Yesteryear Museum
Phone: (785) 825-8473
Admission: \$5 at the gate, \$4 in advance

Emporia:

What: Seventh annual Super Custom Car Show. Covered by world-wide Lowrider car magazine.

When: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. April 24

Where: 1200 Commercial Sts, Emporia State University, HPER Building
Phone: (620) 341-5331
Admission: Free

Wichita:

What: Wichita Jazz Festival. One of the Midwest's premiere jazz events since 1970.

When: 8 a.m. to midnight April 22 and 3 to 10:30 p.m.

April 23

Where: 1845 Fairmont Avenue, Duerksen Fine Arts Center, Wichita State University
Phone: (316) 978-6273
Admission: \$20

Winfield:

What: "Annie." Winfield Community Theatre presents the story of Orphan Annie and her dog Sandy. Famous numbers include "Tomorrow," "Easy Street" and "Hard Knock Life."

When: 8 p.m. April 22-30
Where: Winfield Community Theatre at Baden Square
Phone: (620) 221-6270
Admission: \$7

Hutchinson:

What: Cinco de Mayo celebration. A series of events put together to celebrate and acknowledge the influence of Mexican culture on our society.

When: April 26 through May 1
Where: Downtown
Phone: (620) 662-1280
Admission: Free

Wamego:

What: "Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." A retelling of the Old Testament story of Jacob and his 12 sons. The story for this all-sung piece contains a good deal of humor, including just the right amount of camp, some lessons on forgiveness and maturity, and a sufficient level of drama.

When: April 22-24, April 28 through May 1 and May 5-8; Thursday, Friday and Saturday buffet at 6 p.m. with performance at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday buffet at 12:30 p.m. with performance at 2 p.m.

Cost: Adult buffet \$17.13 (tax included), show \$19.80 (tax included)

For more information or reservations, call (800) 899-1893

Cottonwood Falls:

What: Prairie Drifter Sunset Tour. Open-air two-hour ride in 1958 grain truck through 20 miles of scenic Flint Hills back roads.

When: Friday and Saturday evenings through Oct. 31

Where: 215 Broadway, Grand Central Hotel

Phone: (620) 273-6763
Admission: \$15

Eureka:

What: Fall River Canoe Trips. Up to three-hour canoe trips six to eight miles down Fall River. Specializing in group trips.

When: Thursday through Tuesday through Oct. 30

Where: 416 E. River

Phone: (620) 583-6481

Admission: Varies

Hamilton:

What: 5 R Ranch Wagon/Trail Rides. Horse-drawn wagon rides and horseback rides that take you through the rolling Flint Hills of Greenwood County. Campfire lunch included.

When: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. by reservation through Dec. 1

Where: 2546 W. Road S.

Phone: (620) 678-3829

Admission: \$25

Lindsborg:

What: 107th annual Midwest Art Exhibition. The oldest annual Kansas exhibition. Represents more than a century of artistic vision.

When: 1-5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday through May 1

Where: 401 N. 1st St., Birger Sandzen Memorial Gallery
Phone: (785) 227-2220

Admission: Free

Winged history



Combat Air Museum Photo

This jet airplane was restored by RRS Aviation in Hawkins, Texas, under contract by the Combat Air Museum.

Museum keeps air combat alive

Staff report

Some of America's air warfare history has landed at Forbes Field in Topeka so the public can glimpse those bygone days and nights.

The Combat Air Museum at Forbes Field is more than a collection of aircraft. It also displays a wide variety of military aviation artifacts recalling the advance of combat aviation from World War I to the present

day. Exhibits include aircraft engines of many sizes and types, a simulated field kitchen set up and ready to prepare and serve a meal and a field chapel that boasts a portable organ and is seemingly ready for services.

Two museum members recreated a German prisoner of war barracks for the museum. It is based on their first-hand experience and is authentic right down to the bare light

bulbs, straw-filled mattresses and barbed wire.

Other museum exhibits include an extensive display of artifacts and dioramas and a growing gallery of military aviation art.

The Combat Air Museum was organized in the fall of 1976 as a wing of David Tallichet's Yesterday's Air Force. The group was chartered in April 1977 as Yesterday's Air Force Kansas. The declining number of World War II operable aircraft aroused the founding group's interest.

The core of the initial displays arranged by Yesterday's Air Force Kansas was aircraft provided from the Yesterday's Air Force collection of historical aircraft. The most notable of those was what the group termed its "crown jewel," the only B-24J Liberator bomber flying in the world at that time.

The museum group originally displayed aircraft and memorabilia under an agreement that required local volunteers to restore and maintain Yesterday's Air Force aircraft in return for the privilege of displaying them.

In 1979, the Kansas group reorganized as the Combat Air Museum and relocated to hangar No. 602 at Forbes Field, the Air National Guard base in Topeka.

B-24 Liberator bombers operated from Topeka Army Air Field (now Forbes Field) after the field was placed into operation in 1942.

The Combat Air Museum provides experienced guides to conduct group tours. Its members also conduct aviation orientation classes for groups of youth. The classes teach the theory and lore of flight.

Forbes Field named after pilot

Forbes Field was named after Daniel Hugh Forbes Jr., a Carbondale, Kan., native born June 6, 1920. He was an only child of Daniel and Hattie Forbes of Topeka.

Forbes graduated from North High School in Wichita, then attended Wichita University (now Wichita State University) and Kansas State College (now Kansas State University).

Forbes joined the U.S. Army on June 5, 1941, as an aviation cadet and later became one of the pioneers of strategic photoreconnaissance, flying combat missions from bases in North Africa and India in B-17s, B-24s and several other aircraft. He later flew photoreconnaissance missions in the Pacific theater, flying the B-29 airplane (re-designated F-13), and continued through the Bikini Atoll atomic bomb tests.

His last assignment was as a test pilot at the Flight Test Center, Wright Field, Ohio. He was killed during a test flight of a YB-49 (flying wing) aircraft on June 5, 1948.

If you go:

Visiting hours: 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 4:30 p.m. Sunday; no visitors admitted after 3:30 p.m.

Phone: (785) 862-3303
Fax: (785) 862-3304

Web site: combatairmuseum@aol.com

Directions: Take Interstate 70 east from Fort Riley to Interstate 75. Go south on I-75 to the 77th St. exit. At the end of the exit ramp, go left under I-75 to SW Topeka Boulevard. Turn left on Topeka Boulevard. Forbes Field and the Combat Air Museum will be on the right side of the street.

Combat Air Museum Photo

Abilene chamber plans 'biggest block party'

Staff report

The 3rd annual Abilene Community Mingle takes place April 24, and the Abilene Area Chamber of Commerce is inviting everyone to attend what has been billed as "the biggest block party of 2005."

The Mingle takes place at the Central Kansas Fair Grounds and Eisenhower Park in Abilene from noon to 5 p.m.

A portion of this year's Mingle will be dedicated to returning Sol-

diers and veterans. Activities will include patriotic songs and armed services recognition.

The Fort Riley Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard will host a cavalry encampment, including a cannon and demonstrations.

Troopers and horses of the color guard are outfitted in uniforms, accouterments and equipment of the nation's Civil War period.

The color guard's mounted demonstration exhibits the troopers' skills and precision drill

required of the cavalry horse soldier of old.

The cavalry demonstration includes the use of cavalry sabers, revolvers and Springfield carbines.

Food booths at the Mingle will open at 11:30 a.m. Door prizes will be awarded throughout the afternoon.

Admission is free.

Last year's Mingle brought about 5,000 people to Abilene. More than 60 businesses set up booths and entertainment was provided from three stages.

